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A SIMPLE
HISTORY OF ENGLAND
IN READING LESSONS.

*WITH VOCABULARIES AND NOTES, MAPS,
AND NUMEROUS ILLUSTRATIONS.*



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1896

PREFACE.

THIS is a "Simple" History in respect at once of the matter, the style, and the language. Only the most important events and the most striking incidents are recorded; but these have been selected with great care, and as much picturesqueness has been thrown into the narrative as the limited space would allow.

The work is arranged in Reading Lessons, and to each lesson there are added Spellings, Meanings, and Notes.

The volume embraces the whole period of English History. It will be useful to those who prefer to have the leading facts in the history of our country presented briefly in one book.

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A SIMPLE
HISTORY OF ENGLAND
IN READING LESSONS.

1.—THE EARLY BRITONS.

1. Two thousand years ago, the country in which we live was almost covered with 'dense forests, where roamed wolves, bears, wild boars, and white-maned bulls. The Britons who lived in it then were the forefathers of the Welsh. But they were a wild and almost savage race. The country was very little known to other nations.¹

2. In those days there were no large towns, nor pretty villages, nor well-built houses; no churches, nor school-houses. Here and there, where the forest had been 'cleared, there were a few poor huts, made of rods tied into the shape of a bee-hive or a sugar-loaf, and covered with mud and turf. Perhaps a trench or ditch was cut around the huts, to keep off the wild beasts.

3. The Early Britons did not 'till the soil. They sowed no corn or other seeds. They lived on roots and fruits, and on the flesh of animals killed in

hunting. In winter, they wore skins to keep themselves warm; but in summer they went almost naked; and they painted strange figures on their bodies, to make them look 'terrible to their enemies.

4. Those who lived near the south coast were not so 'savage. They traded in tin and in pearls with people who came across the English Channel. From their visitors they learned to till the soil, to grow corn, and to rear cattle. They had also learned to wear gay clothing, and chains of silver and of gold.

5. The Britons were fond of war. They fought with bows and arrows, with spears and clubs. They fought on foot and on horseback, and in 'chariots armed with scythes, which they drove wildly among their foes.



DRUID CUTTING THE MISTLETOE.

6. In religion they were 'pagans. They 'worshipped the sun and the moon and the serpent; and they looked on the oak, with the 'mistletoe growing on it, as a sacred tree. Their priests were called Druids.² They had long beards, and they

wore white robes. They made laws, they taught the young, they healed the sick, and they offered sacrifices to their gods. Sometimes these sacrifices consisted of men,—criminals and prisoners taken in war,—who were burned in large cages of wicker-work.

char'-l-ots, cars used in war.

cleared, cut down.

dense, thick; close.

mis'-tle-toe, an evergreen plant which grows on certain trees.

pa'-gans, idolaters; heathens.

sav'-age, wild.

ter'-ri-ble, fierce; frightful.

till, delve or plough.

wor'-shipped, took as their gods.

¹ Other nations.—In early times, some of the ancient nations of the Mediterranean coasts used to visit the Scilly Isles and the coast of Cornwall.

They carried away tin with them, and called the islands the "Tin Islands."

² Druids.—From a word meaning the oak-tree.

2.—THE ROMAN TIMES.

55 B.C. to 410 A.D.

1. Fifty-five years before the birth of Christ, Julius Caesar, a great Roman general, landed in Britain with a number of men. On an August morning, some Britons looking out to sea from the top of the chalk cliffs on the south coast, saw a number of dark specks on the 'sky-line. They were Caesar's ships—'galleys rowed by very many oars. .

55
B.C.

2. When the Britons saw that the ships were filled with armed men, they gathered in great numbers on the shore to 'oppose their landing. At first the Romans were afraid to leap into the sea and to fight with the Britons, of whom they had heard terrible tales. But 'an officer, seizing the Roman 'standard—the image of an eagle—jumped into the water, calling out, "Follow me!"



THE LANDING OF THE ROMANS.

3. Then the Romans swarmed on shore in great numbers, and a terrible battle was fought, in which the Britons were defeated. Having forced the Britons to pay him tribute-money, Cæsar went back to France (then called Gaul); but he returned
54
B.C. to Britain next year, and seized on the south coast. This was the beginning of the Roman Times in British history. They lasted four hundred and sixty-five years.

4. It was not until nearly one hundred years after this that the Romans gained any sure footing in Britain. In the time of the Emperor Claudius they came in great numbers and made themselves masters of a large part of the country. A brave British chief, named Caradoc or Carac-
 tacus¹ was defeated and taken prisoner; and
 the Druids were 'expelled from Mona (Anglesey).

51
A.D.

5. Agricola was 'the chief Roman governor of Britain. He held power during seven years; and, having invaded Caledonia (Scotland), he defeated a chief named Galgacus in a great battle.

84
A.D.

6. The Romans built several walls across Britain, to protect themselves from the attacks of the Picts or Caledonians. The 'principal of these
 were the Wall of Hadrian,² from the Tyne to the Solway Firth; and the Wall of Antonine,³
 from the Forth to the Clyde.

121
A.D.
140
A.D.

7. The 'Sack of London by the Picts and the Scots,⁴ in 369 A.D., is a clear sign that the Roman power was decaying in the island.
 Finally, in 410 A.D., the Emperor Honorius wrote a letter withdrawing his 'legions from Britain, and leaving it without any native army to meet the attacks of the northern foes.

410
A.D.

ex-pelled', driven out.

gal-leys, vessels moved forward by
 sails and oars.

le-gions, armies.

op-pose', prevent.

prin-ci-pal, chief.

sack, storming; plundering.

sky'-line, line made by the meeting of
 the sky and the sea.

stand'-ard, banner or a flag-staff.

¹ Carac'tacus.—Pronounce *Ca-răc'-ta-cus*.

² Wall of Ha'drian.—Afterwards

repaired and strengthened by Severus;
 in later times called *The Picts' Wall*.

³ Wall of An'tonine.—Called, after

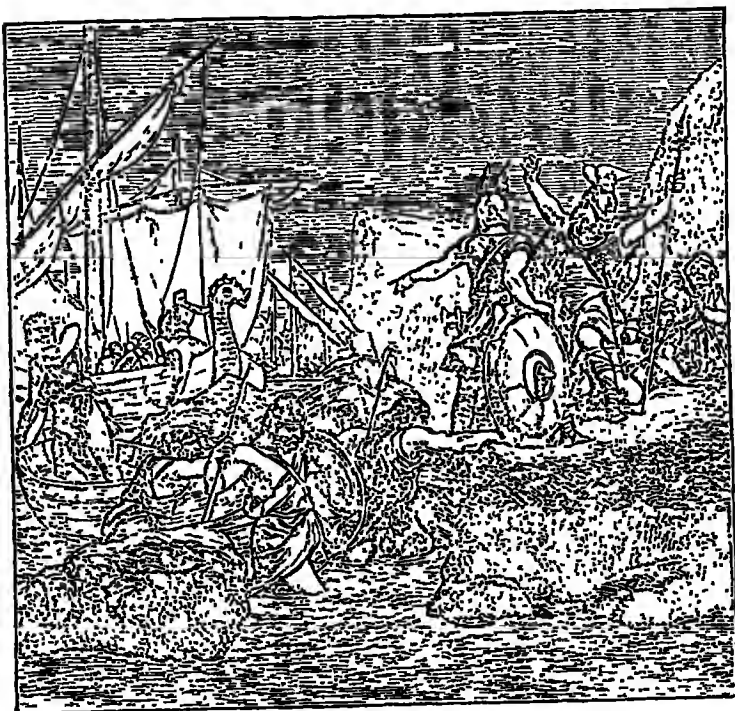
the emperor, Antonine's Wall; and, in later times, *Grime's Dike*.

⁴ Scots.—Ireland was at that time the country of the Scots. Some of the Scots seem to have crossed over to Caledonia, and to have joined the Picts against the Romans, in the fourth century. It was not till 530 A.D. that they made any fixed settlement in the western islands and mainland of Scotland.

3.—FROM THE ENGLISH SETTLEMENT TO EGBERT.

449 to 827 A.D.

1. Not long after the Romans left the country, the Picts and the Scots again invaded South Britain. The Britons, it is said, being unable



THE LANDING OF THE ENGLISH.

to resist them, called in the aid of certain 'sea-

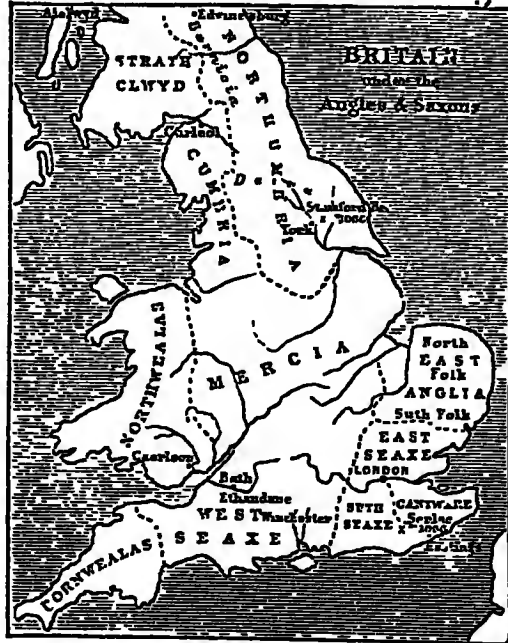
faring tribes from the other side of the North Sea. These people gladly came; and they liked the country so well that they were 'fain to make it their own.

2. So they 'wrested from the Britons (or Welsh, as they called them), whom they had come to help, land on which they and their families might settle. These settlers were the 'founders of the English Nation. 'By-and-by there came other tribes of the same race, which settled on different parts of the coast. In the end, they founded as many as seven or eight 'States in South Britain, and thus drove the Welsh into the north and the west of the country.

582
A.D.

[The different Anglian and Saxon States, in the order of their settlement, were, — KENT, SUSSEX, WESSEX, ESSEX, EAST ANGLIA, (comprising North-folk and South-folk), NORTHUMBRIA (formed by the union of Deira and Bernicia), and MERCA. The Anglians or English were most numerous in the north; the Saxons in the south, as the names Essex, Sussex, and Wessex indicate. The seven chief States are sometimes called *The Heptarchy*, or Rule of Seven; but there never were at any one time seven independent States.

The native Britons, or Welsh as the English called them, were driven into Cornwall (or West Wales), North Wales, Cumbria, and Strathelwyd.]



3. The names of some of these States (as Essex,

Sussex, Wessex¹) show that they were founded by Saxons. Others (as East Anglia² and Northumbria³) were founded by people called Angles. The Angles got most of the land, and became the most powerful tribe. So, when the two peoples grew into one, they were called Anglo-Saxons—that is, Angles *and* Saxons. They called their 'speech English, and their country ENGLAND—that is, the Land of the English.

4. When the Angles and the Saxons came to Brit-



AUGUSTINE PREACHING TO THE SAXONS.

ain they were heathens in religion, and little better than savages in life and manners. But
 597 Augustine⁴ began to teach the Christian re-
 A.D. ligion in Kent in 597, and then a great change began. The King of Northumbria became Christian
 (576)

soon afterwards, and the other States quickly followed his 'example.

5. These early kingdoms were generally at war with one another; and the weaker States were thus by 'degrees swallowed up in the stronger ones. In this way the land came to be divided among three States—Wessex, Mercia,⁵ and North-umbria. These three then strove; and in 827 King Egbert of Wessex, the grandfather of Alfred the Great, got the mastery, and ruled over all the land. 827 A.D.

by'-and-by, in a short time.
de-grees', a little at a time.
ex-am'-ple, lead; copy.
fain, glad.
found-ers, beginners.

sea'-fār-ing tribes, people who spent
their lives as seamen.
speech, language.
states, small countries or kingdoms.
wrest'-ed, took by force.

¹ Essex, Sussex, Wessex.—That is, East-Saxons, South-Saxons, West-Saxons.

² East Anglia.—Now Norfolk and Suffolk.

³ Northumbria.—That is, the land north of the Humber. Another State

was called *Southumbria*. It was afterwards included in Mercia.

⁴ August'ine.—Pronounce *Au-gus'-tine*.

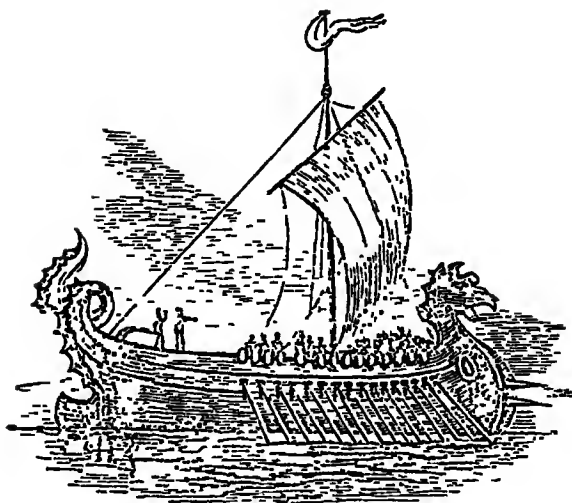
⁵ Mercia.—The centre of England, between the Thames and the Mersey, and between East Anglia and Wales.

4.—FROM EGBERT TO ÆTHIELSTAN.

827 to 937 A.D.

1. For the next two hundred years, the English were at war with the Norsemen, or Danes, whose dragon-shaped galleys had been the terror of their coasts for forty years. The Danes were nearly 'related to the English. If we call the Angles and the Saxons brothers, we may call the Danes their cousins.

2. The Kings who fought best with the Danes



NORSE GALLEY.

were Alfred the Great and Æthelstan. Alfred was
 871 twenty-one when he became King. The first
 A.D. seven years of his reign were spent in fighting
 with the Danes. They pressed him so hard
 that he was at last forced, with a few followers,
 to take 'refuge in the island of Athelney,¹ amid the
 'swamps of Somersetshire. There he lived in the
 cottage of a shepherd. The shepherd's wife did not
 know who he was, and one day she scolded him for
 allowing some cakes to burn which she had set him
 to watch.

3. After a time, more of his own people joined
 him, and he began to take heart again. He re-
 solved to gather all the forces he could, and
 878 to attack the Danes. In order to find out
 A.D. the strength of the enemy and their plans, he
 is said to have gone into their camp at Ethan-



ALFRED THE GREAT.

dune,² dressed like a harper. Returning to his own men. he attacked the Danes, and smote them so sorely that they were glad to yield.

4. Æthelstan was Alfred's grandson. In his reign the Danes formed a 'league with the King of Scots and some Welsh princes who were alarmed at Æthelstan's growing power. Æthelstan met them at Brunanburh,³ and gained a great victory.

937
A.D.

5. Thereafter Æthelstan reigned in peace. He was one of the ablest and wisest of the early English princes, and he was the first who had any 'real 'claim to the title of King of all England. He also encouraged 'commerce by granting the title of



KING ALFRED IN THE DANISH CAMP.

Thane (or noble) to every merchant who had made three voyages in his own ships.

claim, right.

com-merce, trade.

league, union.

near-ly re-lat-ed, of the same kin-

[dred.

re-al, true.

ref-uge, shelter.

swamps, marshy land; bog.

voy-ag-es, journeys by sea.

¹ Ath'elney.—At the meeting of the Tone and the Parret. The name means "The Princes' Island."

² Eth'andune. — Edington, near Westbury in Wilts.

³ Brun'anburh.—Somewhere in the north of England, but its exact locality is not known. As the enemy (Danes and Scots) landed at the mouth of the Humber, it was probably in Yorkshire.

5.—FROM ÆTHELSTAN TO THE NORMAN CONQUEST.

937 to 1066 A.D.

1. Their defeats did not prevent the Danes from returning again and again to attack the English,

especially when a weak monarch filled the throne. Æthelred the Unready tried to get rid of them, by 'bribing them with money to go 'away, taking from his people for the purpose a tax called Dane-geld, or Dane-money. But this only made the Danes return in larger numbers, and 'demand a larger bribe. Then in 1002 he ordered a 1002
A.D. 'massacre of all the Danes in England; which brought over thousands of their friends, burning with 'revenge.

2. After a fierce struggle, the Danes at last were strong enough to wrest the crown of England from the English; and they held it for 1017
A.D. twenty-four years. Three Danish Kings, one after the other, filled the English throne. The greatest of these was Canute, or Knut, who was at the same time King of England, Denmark, Norway, and Sweden.

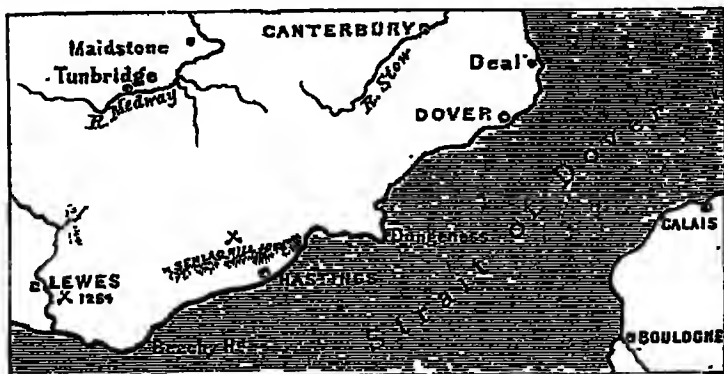
3. On the death of the last Danish King—who left no son to succeed him—Edward (the son of Æthelred) was called to the throne; and thus 1041
A.D. the true English line was brought back. This Edward had spent the greater part of his life in Normandy, the Duke of which state was his second cousin.

4. It was 'natural, therefore, that when he came to England he should like to have about him the Norman friends of his youth. French 'fashions and 'customs were thus brought into England long before the Norman Conquest; and by-and-by the French language was that commonly used, not only in the King's 'circle, but in the churches and in the courts

of law. Edward's 'pious life gained for him, after his death, the title of *The Confessor*. He died childless in 1066.

5. The nearest heir to the throne was Edgar the Ætheling (that is, the Prince); but as he was too young to rule in times so stormy, the Witan,¹ or Great Council, chose as King, Harold, Earl of Kent, then the most powerful noble in all England. But Duke William of Normandy declared that Edward had promised the crown to him, and that Harold himself had sworn to support him.

6. He therefore came over with a powerful army, and claimed the throne. The King of Norway invaded England at the same time, and took the city of York. Harold marched north and defeated him; and then turned southward to meet William, who had landed on the coast of Sussex.



7. The two armies met at Senlac Hill, near Hastings, on October 14, 1066, and a terrible battle was fought, which lasted a whole day. Fearful was the slaughter: thousands of

1066
A.D.

brave men fell on both sides. But in the evening, as Harold was again leading on his men to the charge, he was shot in the right eye by an arrow, which pierced his brain. His two brothers fell slain by his side, and his army fled to the woods. Thus the Duke of Normandy gained the victory, and was called William the Conqueror.

brib'-ing, tempting.

cir'-cle, company.

cus'-toms, ways of doing things.

de-mand', ask.

fash'-ions, forms of dress.

mas'-sa-cre, slaughter.

nat'-u-ral, proper; according to nature.

pi'-ous, godly; religious.

re-venge', desire to return evil.

¹ Wit'an.—In full the name was | the meeting." It included bishops and
Witena-gemot; that is, "of wise men | abbots, as well as thanes or noblemen.

THE NORMAN LINE.

6.—WILLIAM I.—THE CONQUEROR.

1066 to 1087 A.D.—21 years.

1. William, after the Battle of Hastings, marched to London; and was crowned there on Christmas-day, 1066. With him the Norman line begins. He promised to rule according to the English laws, and was at first just and merciful: but his new subjects gave him much trouble by forming plots against his life; and once, when he was in Normandy, they fixed on a day for destroying all the Normans in the country, as Æthelred had destroyed the Danes.

2. But William soon returned; and, when he heard of it, he began to act like a cruel 'tyrant, burning houses and killing people, and 'laying waste whole counties. Taking away the rich

estates of the English, he gave them to his Norman followers; who promised, in return, to serve him in time of war. Thus began in England the Feudal System, or the custom of holding land by giving service in war, instead of by paying rent in money.

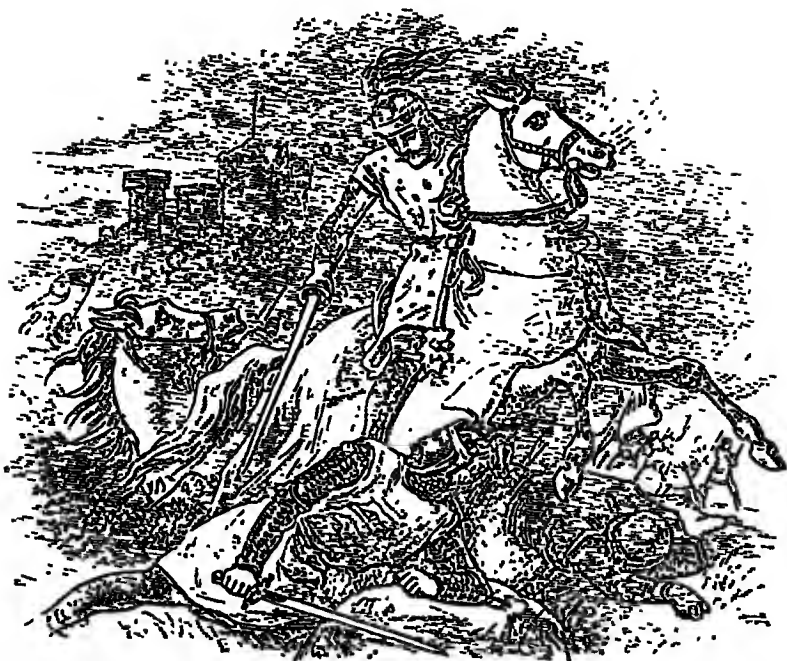
1072
A.D. 3. Three chief events of his reign were these:—
The Domesday¹ Book was written, the Curfew² Bell was brought in, and the New Forest was made.

1086
A.D. The Domesday Book contained an 'account of every estate in England, with the name of its owner; and an account of the ploughed land, as well as of the rivers, forests, and lakes which it contained.

4. The Curfew was a bell which was rung in every parish at eight o'clock at night, as a 'signal for the people to put out their lights and fires. The New Forest 'embraced all Hampshire, from Winchester to the sea. Here William destroyed sixty villages, and drove out all the inhabitants, in order to make it a fit place for hunting deer!

5. The Conqueror had four sons, Robert, Richard, William, and Henry. Robert raised a 'rebellion in France against his father. During the 'siege of a castle, father and son met in single combat; for both being covered with armour, they did not know each other.' Robert knocked his father off his horse, and would have killed him; but at that moment he saw his face. He was so shocked that he fell down before his father, and asked his pardon.

6. Some years after this, King William was besieging a town in France, when his horse, treading



COMBAT BETWEEN WILLIAM AND HIS SON.

on some hot ashes, began to plunge. The King, who had become very fat and heavy, was bruised on the saddle, and this caused his death. He left the crown of England to his second living son, William, and that of Normandy to Robert.

7. William was a daring soldier and an able ruler; but he was cruel and 'reckless in the means he used to gain his ends.

ac-count', a statement; description.

em-braced', took in.

lay-ing waste, destroying the houses and crops of.

re-bell'-ion, civil war.

reck'-less, careless.

siege, attack on a fortress.

sig-nal, notice; sign.

ty-rant, monarch who ruled by his own will.

¹ Domes'day.—That is, Judgment-day, or Law-day. Alfred the Great made a collection of *dooms*; that is, laws.

² Cur'few.—From French words meaning "cover fire." The English thought this law or custom a mark of degradation.

7.—WILLIAM II.—RUFUS.

1087 to 1100 A.D.—13 years.

1. William the Second was called Rufus because he had a 'ruddy countenance. As he was 'crafty and cruel, he was not liked by the people, and a plot was formed to set his brother Robert on the throne. Robert, though wild and careless, was 'generous, and the people were fond of him. But William was on his guard, and defeated their plans.

2. After this, William made war on Robert, and took away part of his 'dukedom of Normandy.
1096 A.D. Soon afterwards he obtained the whole; for Robert, wishing to go to the Crusades,¹ pledged his lands to William for a large sum.

3. In those days it was a custom with many Christians to make a journey to the Holy Land. But Jerusalem, where the tomb of Christ was, was then in the hands of the 'Saracens. They were not Christians, and wished to prevent the pilgrims from visiting the city.

4. So Peter the Hermit, who had been a pilgrim, went through all Europe preaching a Crusade. That is to say, he urged the princes and nobles to sell their lands, and take all the men they could to Jerusalem, to drive out the Saracens. Many thousands soon set out; and Robert of Normandy was one of their leaders. When they came near Jerusalem, Peter the Hermit stood on the brow of a hill and pointed out the Holy City to the knights around him. The army was seized with 'enthusiasm, and at once marched forward to the gates of the city.



THE CRUSADERS IN SIGHT OF JERUSALEM.

After a siege of a few weeks they stood victorious within its walls.

5. William was priding himself on having become a very powerful King, when death put an end to his greatness. One day, while he was hunting in the New Forest, Sir Walter Tyrrel, shooting at a deer, missed his mark, and his arrow, glancing from a tree, pierced the King to the heart. Tyrrel escaped to France.

6. Some historians say that this was a murder, planned by the enemies of Rufus; but the truth is not known. This greedy and heartless King was so little cared for, that his body was carried in a cart to Winchester, then the capital of England, and was buried like that of a common man.

craf'ty, cunning.

duke-dom, land ruled over by him as

en-thu-si-asm, strong zeal.

gen-er-ous, kind-hearted.

[duke.

his-to-ri-ans, writers of history.

rud-dy, red.

Sar'a-cens, unbelievers.

urg-ing, pressing; begging.

¹ Crusades'.—Wars of the Cross, or taken between the eleventh and the holy wars, of which eight were under- | thirteenth century.

8.—HENRY I.—BEAUCLERC.

1100 to 1135 A.D.—35 years.

1. Henry the First was the youngest son of the Conqueror, and a brother of the late King. He was called 'Beauclerc, which means "fine scholar," because he was very learned for a King in those days. But he was also cunning and 'ambitious. As soon as Henry heard of his brother's death, he hastened first to Winchester to seize the 'royal treasures; and then to London, where he was crowned King.

2. Robert, on his return from the 'Holy Land,

came over to England with an army, to claim the crown, which was his by right. He, however, gave up his claim for 3,000 marks a-year; which Henry agreed to pay him.

3. Soon after this, Henry invaded Normandy, took Robert prisoner, and brought him over to England. He was closely confined in Cardiff Castle,¹ in Wales, for the rest of his life—a period of twenty-eight years. Some say that his eyes were burned out with a red-hot needle by Henry's order.

4. Henry had married Edith-Matilda,² daughter of Malcolm the Third of Scotland, and niece of Edgar the Ætheling. By this marriage the Norman and English royal lines were united.

5. To Henry and Edith there were born a son and a daughter, William and Maud. Prince William was drowned in the wreck of the *White Ship* between Normandy and England. It is said that, after hearing the news, he never smiled again. Henry, by his will, left the crown to his daughter Maud, and made his nobles and his nephew Stephen swear to obey her. He died of an illness brought on by eating too heartily of lam-preys.

am-bi'tious, desirous of power.
Beau-clerc, Bo'-clair.
Ho'-ly Land, Palestine.
lam-preys, a kind of eel.

mark, 13s. 4d.
roy'al treas-ures, crown, sceptre,
and jewels.
u-nit-ed, joined.

¹ Cardiff Castle.—Cardiff is in the extreme south-east of Glamorganshire, about 2 miles from the Bristol Channel. (See *Map*, p. 31.)

² Edith-Matilda.—At first she bore the English name Edith; but after her marriage she took the Norman name Matilda.

9.—STEPHEN.

1135 to 1154 A.D.—19 years.

1. Although Stephen, Earl of Blois,¹ had sworn to support Maud, he yet claimed the crown; and many of the nobles and clergy were 'in his favour, as they'did not like to be governed by a woman. He promised that they should be allowed to build castles on their 'estates, and to hunt in their own



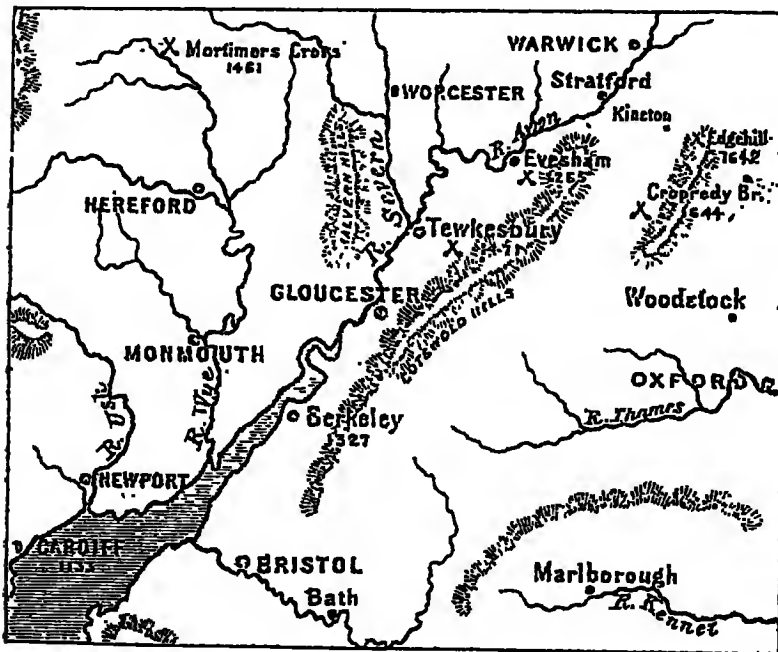
SIEGE OF A NORMAN CASTLE.

forests. By such promises he 'gained over a great party, and was crowned.

1138 A.D. 2. But David, King of Scotland, who was the uncle of Maud, invaded England, laid waste Northumberland, and entered York-

shire. Here he was met by Stephen's barons, and a great battle was fought at Northallerton,² in which the Scots were defeated. This was called the Battle of the Standard, because the English carried into the field a large cross hung with banners.

3. For some time after this the country was a scene of bloodshed. At last Stephen was defeated at Lincoln, taken prisoner, and cast **1141**
into a 'dungeon in Bristol Castle. **A.D.**



4. Maud then became Queen; but her 'haughty spirit displeased the nation, and so great was the power raised against her that she had to flee. Her half-brother and chief supporter, Robert, Earl of Gloucester, was taken prisoner. He was exchanged for Stephen, who once more sat on the throne.

5. The following winter, Maud was besieged at Oxford. The ground being covered with snow, she dressed herself in white, that she might not be seen, crossed the Thames on the ice, and soon after escaped to Normandy.

6. Maud had a son named Henry, now almost grown up. By-and-by he invaded England to claim the throne. But Stephen agreed that at his death Henry should have the crown; and so the quarrel ended. Henry had not to wait long, for Stephen died in 1154, after a reign of nineteen years.

7. Stephen was brave, kind-hearted, and active; but he was not 'skilful or wise as a ruler. By his 'permission, one hundred and twenty-six castles were built in different parts of England, and the 'barons became very powerful.

bar-^{ons}, nobles; chief men.
dun-^{geon}, prison.
e-^{states}', own land.
gained, won.

haught-^y, proud.
in his fa-^{vour}, on his side.
per-^{mis}-sion, leave.
skil-^{ful}, clever.

¹ Blois (*Bloo*). — In France; 35 miles south-west of Orleans.

² Northallerton. — Twenty-eight miles north-east of York.

THE PLANTAGENETS—HOUSE OF ANJOU.

10.—HENRY II.—CURTMANTLE.

1154 to 1189 A.D.—35 years.

1. Henry the Second, the first Plantagenet King, was the son of Geoffrey,¹ Count of Anjou, and Maud, daughter of Henry the First. He was the most

powerful King of his time—ruling not only England, but also the greater part of France. He also 'subdued Wales and Ireland.

2. His first care was to lessen the power of the barons ; and this he did by causing many of their castles to be destroyed. Then, wishing to rule the 'clergy, he took into his favour a priest named Thomas Becket—a Norman by birth, and son of a wealthy London merchant—gave him great wealth and power, and made him Archbishop of Canterbury.

3. But Becket, when he had got this great power, did not do as Henry wished. He gave up his rich and costly manner of living, and all his long train of followers. He began to eat coarse food ; he wore sackcloth next his skin, keeping it on until it was painful for him to wear it; and he daily washed the feet of thirteen beggars.

4. He then took the part of the clergy against Henry. The Council, or Parliament, drew up laws, called the Constitutions of Clarendon, in Henry's favour. Becket nevertheless continued to give Henry so much trouble, that one day, when he was in France, and heard of Becket's wilful ways, he became very angry, and said, "Is there not one of the cowardly knights eating of my bread that will rid me of this 'stubborn priest?"

5. Four of his knights, hearing what was said, and being very jealous of Becket's power, secretly crossed over to England, and went 1170
to Canterbury² to murder Becket. They A.D.
found him in the cathedral, at the altar ; and
(676) 3



DEATH OF BECKET.

there they fell upon him and dashed out his brains.

6. When Henry heard of this horrid murder, he was not only very sorry, but also much afraid of the Pope's anger. He therefore ordered a
 1174 splendid tomb to be built for Becket: and he
 A.D. 'did penance by walking barefoot through Canterbury to the tomb; and by allowing himself, as he knelt there, to be 'scourged with knotted cords.

7. The chief event of Henry's reign was the invasion of Ireland. This country was at
 1172 that time divided into six provinces, ruled
 A.D. by as many Kings. Two of the most power-

ful of these quarrelled, and one of them applied to Henry for help. Henry allowed some of his nobles with their knights to go to his aid. The chief of these was Strongbow, Earl of Pembroke. Soon afterwards he went himself, and received the 'homage of several of the chiefs.

8. Henry had four sons, Henry, Geoffrey, Richard, and John. They were wild and disobedient, and caused their father much trouble in the later part of his reign. They even got the Kings of France and Scotland to help them. But Henry put to flight all his enemies. He died, however, of a broken heart, on hearing that his favourite son John was among the rebels. Henry was much given to pleasure, cruel and passionate; but he was a clever man, and a lover of peace.

9. In this reign London became the capital of England. Winchester, the old capital, had been laid in ruins during the civil war in Stephen's reign. William the Lion, King of Scotland, was taken prisoner, and was not released till he had owned Henry as over-lord of Scotland. Richard the First gave up this claim for a sum of money.

cler'gy, ministers; priests.
did pen'ance, showed his sorrow.
hom'age, promise of obedience.

scourged, whipped.
stub-born, obstinate.
sub-dued', conquered.

¹ Geoff'rey (*Jef'fray*).—He bore the surname *Plantagenet*, which was afterwards adopted by his descendants on the English throne, and which he derived from the device, a sprig of broom

(*plante de genêt*), which his family wore. The Plantagenet Line includes the Houses of Anjou, Lancaster, and York.

² Canterbury.—In Kent, 16 miles north-west of Dover.

11.—RICHARD I.—COEUR DE LION, OR THE LION-HEART.

1189 to 1199 A.D.—10 years.

1. Richard succeeded to the throne, as his elder brothers had died before their father. He cared very little for the 'welfare of his subjects; and, though King for ten years, he only spent six months in England. During the rest of his reign he was in Palestine and on the Continent.

2. Wishing to join the Third Crusade, he began his reign by raising all the money he could. For this purpose he used improper means. He sold the offices of State; and took away by force much wealth from the rich Jews. Many of them were basely murdered, and their dwellings were plundered and burned to the ground.

3. Richard was joined in the Crusade by the King of France. They raised a vast army, and at Acre, a town in Palestine, they fought a great battle, in which thousands were slain. After taking this strong city, Richard marched to Jerusalem; but his army was not strong enough to take it, so he left for England.

4. On his way home, he was shipwrecked on the northern coast of the Gulf of Venice. While he was making his way through Austria, in the dress of a pilgrim, he was seized by the Duke of Austria, and was sold for a great sum of money to the Emperor of Germany, who cast him into prison.

5. It is said that a French 'musician, who knew Richard, happened to arrive at the walls of the



RICHARD THE LION-HEART.

very castle where he was confined, and beneath the grated window of his 'cell played on his harp a tune which Richard had made. Richard, hearing it, remembered the harper, and sang the same tune in reply.

6. The harper at once knew the voice of the

King, and went and made known in England the place where he was imprisoned.—This is a pretty story, but many persons do not believe it. It is quite true, however, that a great ransom was paid for Richard's freedom, and that he returned home.

7. During his absence the country had got into a shocking state. It was overrun by bands of robbers, and neither life nor property was safe. The famous outlaw Robin Hood lived about this time.

8. Shortly after Richard's return from the Holy Land he was shot by an archer while he was besieging a castle in France. The wound caused his death.—King Richard was a very brave and skilful soldier; but he was changeable and often fierce in temper.

cell, room in the prison.

change-a-ble, not to be depended on.

his ab-sence, the time he had been away.

mu-si-cian, player of music.

out-law, robber.

ran-som, price of freedom.

wel-fare, good.

12.—JOHN—LACKLAND.

1199 to 1216 A.D.—17 years.

1. John was the youngest son of Henry the Second, and brother of Richard, the late King. He was not the rightful heir, as Geoffrey, his elder brother, had left a son named Arthur, who was then twelve years old. John's first care, therefore, was to get rid of Arthur; and having shut him up in a French castle, he there murdered him, it is said, with his

own hand. By this act he so 'enraged the King of France and other princes, that they took away from him all his French provinces.

2. Soon after this, John quarrelled with the Pope about the choice of an Archbishop of Canterbury. John refused to listen to the Pope, or 1206
to do what he wanted. The Pope, in return, A.D.
caused all the churches in England to be shut for six years, and forbade any service to be read at burials. He then told the King of France to invade England, and seize the throne. This 1213
so alarmed the cowardly John, that he yielded A.D.
to the Pope, called him his over-lord, and even agreed to receive his crown from the hands of the Pope's legate.

3. John, being now free from danger, began to use his subjects very cruelly. He made the rich pay him large sums of money, and he gave the highest offices of State to his 'foreign 'favourites. By these acts he so roused the spirit of the barons, that they drew up a paper in which they made the King promise never more to 'oppress the people, nor to take away their rights, but to govern according to the laws of the land.

4. That 'document was called Magna Carta, or the Great Charter. In order to force John to sign it, they gathered a large force and seized 1215
London. John at last consented; and at A.D.
Runnymede,¹ near Windsor, that Great Charter of liberty was signed. It is still carefully 'preserved in the British Museum.

5. When John had signed the 'deed, and the

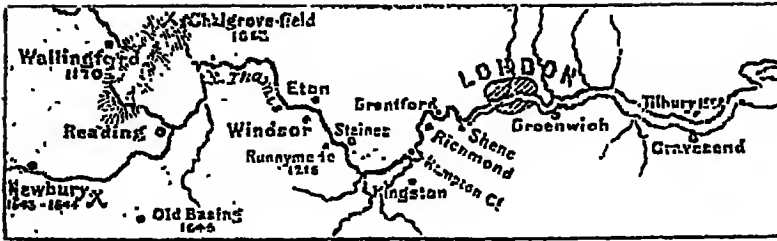


JOHN SIGNS MAGNA CARTA.

barons were gone away, he raved like a madman.

1216 As soon as possible he raised an army of
A.D. worthless men, and began to lay waste the
country with fire and sword. The barons, in
their fear, sent to Louis, the son of the King of France,
and asked him to come and take the crown. They
were led to think of him because he had married
John's niece.

6. Louis was not slow to accept the offer. He
landed with an army in Kent. John marched to



meet him; but as he was crossing the Wash,² the tide rose so fast that he and his army had scarcely time to escape from the waves; and, in their rush for life, the King's crown, jewels, and money were lost. This had such an effect on the King that it threw him into a fever. He was carried to Newark³ Castle, and there he died. He was weak, deceitful, and cruel, and was despised and hated by every one.

deed, charter.
doc-u-ment, paper.
en-raged', angered.
for-eign, brought from abroad.

fa-vour-ites, friends.
heir, successor.
op-press', treat harshly.
pre-served', kept.

¹ Run-nymede.—A meadow on the right bank of the Thames, 1 mile west of Staines, and 4 east of Windsor.

² The Wash.—A gulf between Norfolk and Lincoln, into which the Great

Ouse, the Nen, and the Welland flow.

³ Newark.—On the Trent in Nottinghamshire; 17 miles north-east of Nottingham.

13.—HENRY III.—WINCHESTER.

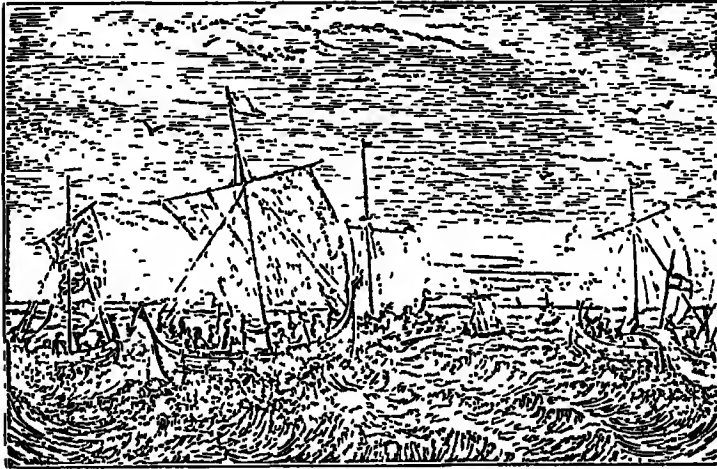
1216 to 1272 A.D.—56 years.

1. Henry the Third, eldest son of John, was only nine years old when he came to the throne; and the Earl of Pembroke, a wise and prudent man, was made 'Protector.

2. Louis of France, however, who had invaded the southern counties, was not willing to return

home without making a struggle for the English crown; but the barons who had invited him had now changed their minds, and instead of 'favouring his plans, they raised their 'forces to oppose him.

3. He was completely defeated at Lincoln. His fleet was also destroyed off the coast of Kent,



ENGLISH SHIPS—THIRTEENTH CENTURY.

the sailors having been blinded by quicklime which the English threw in their faces. Louis was therefore compelled to return to France. Henry afterwards invaded France, to 'regain those provinces which his father had lost; but through his cowardice and weakness he entirely failed.

4. The King at length lost the favour of his subjects, by his bad government and by showing favour to foreigners. A Parliament which met at Oxford drew up the Provisions of Oxford,—rules intended to 'reform the government. The

King refused to abide by them, and then a great rebellion was raised, headed by Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester. A battle was fought at Lewes,¹ and the King was defeated and taken prisoner.

1264

A.D.



SIMON DE MONTFORT.

5. Prince Edward, however, gave himself up, that his father might be set free. Montfort then called together a Parliament in the King's name. This consisted, not of nobles only, as before, but also of members from towns, chosen by the people. This was the beginning of the House of Commons.

1265

A.D.

6. Edward soon found means to escape from prison. Being allowed to ride out with his guards, he one day set them to ride races with one another, until all their horses were tired; then putting spurs to his own, which he had kept fresh, he soon left them far behind!

7. He quickly collected a large army, marched to meet Montfort, and fought the Battle of Evesham.² Montfort, fearing lest he should lose the battle, basely placed the King in front, that he might be slain. Henry, however, saved himself by calling out, "I am Henry of Winchester, your King!" Edward knew his father's voice, and hastened to



PRINCE EDWARD RESCUES HIS FATHER.

his help. In this battle Montfort was killed, and his body was almost torn in pieces.

8. Young Edward afterwards went to the Crusades, taking with him his wife Eleanor. She is said to have saved his life by sucking the 'venom from a wound he had received from a poisoned dagger. During his absence his father died. Henry the Third reigned longer than any other English monarch, before or since, except George the Third. He was a weak ruler, easily led by favourites; and he loved his own 'ease more than the good of his subjects.

ease, comfort; pleasure.

fa'vour-ing, supporting.

forc-es, soldiers.

pro-tec-tor, guardian of the king and

[the realm.

pru-dent, cautious; very careful.

re-form', amend; make better.

re-gain', win back.

ven-om, poison.

¹ **Lewes.**—About 9 miles north-east of Brighton. The King was imprisoned in Lewes Castle. (See *Map*, p. 22.)

² **Evesham.**—On the Avon, in Worcestershire; 15 miles south-east of Worcester. (See *Map*, p. 31.)

14.—EDWARD I.—LONGSHANKS.

1272 to 1307 A.D.—35 years.

1. Edward the First, eldest son of Henry the Third, was a wise and able King. He began his reign by restoring order in the kingdom, and making many just laws. He then led an army into Wales, as the Welsh had been very troublesome.

1282
A.D.

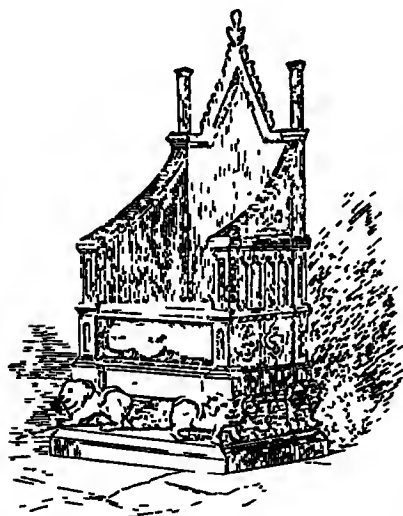


THE FIRST PRINCE OF WALES.

He gained a great victory over them, in which their prince, Llewelyn, was slain.

2. The Welsh, however, were not easily conquered. For a long time they held out
 1284 among their mountains,¹ and would not have
 A.D. Edward for their King. But at last Edward had a son born at Caernarvon² Castle, which he had just built, and him they promised to obey as King. Ever since that time the eldest son of the English Sovereign has been called Prince of Wales.

3. Edward then turned to Scotland, which he resolved to 'subdue. He was at first successful, and



CORONATION CHAIR.

he carried off to England the ancient stone on which the Kings of Scotland were crowned, and which now forms part of the English coronation chair. But Sir William Wallace gained a great victory over the English near Stirling, and for several years 'defied the armies of Edward. A few years afterwards, Robert the Bruce drove the

English forces out of his country, and was crowned King.

4. This so enraged the warlike Edward that he set
 1307 out for Scotland with a large army, declaring
 A.D. that he would not return until he had subdued it; but before he reached Scotland he fell

ill and died. His last 'request was that his body should be carried before the army, and should not be buried until Scotland should be conquered.

5. Edward was high-spirited and brave, and had great strength of will. He had the 'foresight of a 'statesman; but he was reckless in working out his plans.

6. *Important Events.*—During this reign it was enacted that no tax should be raised by the King without the consent of Parliament. The Jews, who had already suffered many cruelties, were 'banished from the kingdom.

ban'ished, driven out.

de-fied', stood out against.

en-act-ed, made law.

fore-sight, the habit of looking for-

[ward.

re-quest', expressed wish.

re-solved', made up his mind.

states-man, ruler; leader.

sub-due', conquer.

¹ Their mountains.—Wales is a very mountainous country.

² Caernarvon.—In the north-west of Wales, on the Menai Strait.

15.—EDWARD II.—CAERNARVON.

1307 to 1327 A.D.—20 years.

1. Young Edward took little notice of his father's dying wish. He buried his body in Westminster,¹ and gave up the war with Scotland. Like Henry the Third, he lost the favour of his people by his fondness for worthless foreigners. He so 'roused the anger of the nobles, that they seized his three chief favourites and put them to death.

2. In the seventh year of his reign he 'renewed the war with Scotland, and crossed the 'Border with an army of 100,000 men—the largest that had ever marched out of England. He was met at Bannockburn² by Bruce with 30,000

1314
A.D.

men, and was completely defeated. Edward himself 'narrowly escaped with his life.



3. Edward's Queen, Isabella, was a very wicked woman, and caused the King many troubles, by having taken as her friend a worthless man named Mortimer. An open quarrel followed. The Queen fled to France, raised an army, and returned. The barons took her side, and Edward was forced to flee. He went to Wales, but was taken prisoner; and his son was crowned King in his 'stead.

4. Edward was carried from prison to prison, and was treated with the greatest cruelty. His 'brutal keepers one day shaved him for sport in the open fields, using dirty water from a ditch. He was at last removed to Berkeley³ Castle. The stillness of one dark night was broken by fearful shrieks which came from his dungeon; and next morning the body of the murdered King was openly shown to the people of Bristol.

1327

A.D.

5. Edward the Second was very unlike his brave

and wise father. He was weak and selfish, a lover of pleasure, and a coward.

bor'-der, boundary between England	re-newed', began again.
bru'-tal, savage. [and Scotland.	roused, stirred up.
nar-row-ly, hardly; scarcely.	stead, place.

¹ Westminster.—In Westminster Abbey, where many of the Sovereigns of England are buried.

let, or "burn," Bannock. (See the Map.)

² Bannockburn.—A village 2½ miles south of Stirling, on the rivu-

³ Berkeley.—Near the Severn; 15 miles south-west of Gloucester. (See Map, p. 81.)

16.—EDWARD III.—WINDSOR.

1327 to 1377 A.D.—50 years.

1. Edward the Third, eldest son of Edward the Second, was only fifteen years of age when he came to the throne, and all the power was in the hands of the Queen and Mortimer. But when Edward came of age,¹ he caused Mortimer to be seized at Nottingham Castle, in presence of Isabella. He was carried to Tyburn,² and was hanged on a gibbet. The guilty Queen was confined to her own house during the rest of her life.

2. Edward next marched to Scotland, to help Edward Baliol to get the throne. He fought the Battle of Halidon Hill,³ in which the Scots were defeated. 1333
A.D.

3. His greatest desire was to reign over France as well as over England; and as there was at that time a quarrel about the crown of that country, he raised all the money he could and went over to try for it himself. As soon as he had landed on the French coast, the King knighted his son Edward,

Prince of Wales, then a lad of fifteen, and called the Black Prince from the colour of his 'armour.



KNIGHTING OF THE BLACK PRINCE.

4. After fighting several battles, he marched
towards Calais,⁴ and was met by the French
1346 army at Crécy,⁵ where a great victory was
A.D. gained by the English, chiefly through the
bravery of the Black Prince. The King viewed
the battle from a windmill; and when he was told
that his son was hard pressed, he said, "Let the

boy win his spurs ; his shall be the glory of the day."

5. While Edward was carrying on the war with France, David the Second, King of Scotland, invaded England; but Philippa, Edward's wife, bravely put herself at the head of some English troops, defeated the Scottish army at Nevil's Cross,⁶ and took the King prisoner.

6. Edward, after the Battle of Crécy, laid siege to Calais. This brave little city held out against him nearly a year; but when all the food



was gone, the inhabitants were forced to yield.

7. In the year 1349 a stop was put to the war by a terrible 'plague, called the Black Death, which, after 'raging throughout Europe, visited England, and carried off 50,000 people.

8. Ten years after the Battle of Crécy, the French war was again opened by the Black Prince, and the great Battle of Poitiers⁷ was fought, in which a very small English force put to

1356
A.D.

flight the French army of seven times the number. The French King and his son were taken prisoners, and were brought over to England. Thus there were two Kings prisoners in England at the same time—David of Scotland and John of France.

9. In the year 1376 the brave and 'generous Prince of Wales died. The King, his father, died in the following year, after a reign of half a 'century. He was brave, wise, and merciful; an able ruler, and a just and generous man.

10. It must be remembered that from sons of Edward the Third 'sprang the Houses of Lancaster and York;—the House of Lancaster from his fourth son, John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster; and that of York from his third and fifth sons, Lionel and Edmund. In after years, the 'strife of these Houses in the War of the Roses 'deluged England with blood.

11. In this reign the Lords and the Commons began to sit in separate Houses. The title of Duke again came into use, the Black Prince being made Duke of Cornwall—a title since borne by every Prince of Wales.

ar'mour, coat of mail.
cen'tu-ry, hundred years.
del'uged, flooded.
gen'er-ous, kind-hearted.

plague, sickness.
rāg-ing, extending.
sprang, descended.
strife, quarrels.

¹ Game of age.—Was old enough to rule.

² Ty'burn.—In the west of London, at the end of Oxford Road, now Oxford Street—the usual place for the execution of criminals till 1783.

³ Hal'idon Hill.—About 2 miles north-west of Berwick; different from Homildon Hill, in Northumberland.

⁴ Cal'ais (Kal'-ay).—A French sea-

port on the Straits of Dover; 26½ miles south-east of Dover.

⁵ Crecy. — Near the Somme; 48 miles south of Calais.

⁶ Nevil's Cross.—A stone cross is set up to mark the site of the battle, about 1 mile west of Durham.

⁷ Poictiers' (P'wa-tiers').—In the west of France; 58 miles south-west of Tours.

17.—RICHARD II.—BORDEAUX.

1377 to 1399 A.D.—22 years.

1. Richard the Second, the son of the Black Prince, and grandson of the late King, came to the throne when only eleven years of age; and the kingdom was ruled by a council of twelve nobles until he came of age.

2. The first great event of his reign was a rebellion of the 'common people, headed by a 'tiler named Walter—hence Wat Tyler. It was caused by a 'tax of one shilling a-head 'levied on every person above fifteen years of age.

3. This tax was felt to be unjust, as the poor had to pay as much as the rich. A great mob of 'lawless men, therefore, with Tyler at their head, entered London, destroyed the houses of the nobility, and murdered every one that looked like a gentleman.

4. Next day the King met them in Smithfield.¹ Wat Tyler spoke to him so rudely, that Sir William Walworth, the Lord Mayor, struck him from his horse with a blow of his 'mace. 1381
A.D.

One of the King's knights then rode up and slew him. The rebels were preparing to take 'vengeance; but young Richard bravely rode up to them, and told them not to mind Tyler's death—he himself would now be their leader, and would do all they wished.

5. This bold address at once quieted the rebels, who soon went home. Richard, however, did not keep his promise; and hundreds of them were afterwards hanged.

6. When Richard came into power, he was found to be a vain, weak, and foolish King—quite unable to rule the fierce spirits of the time. He therefore soon lost the good opinion of his subjects; and at length an event happened which cost him his crown and his life.

1398 A.D. 7. A quarrel having arisen between the Dukes of Hereford and Norfolk, Richard ordered them to decide it by single combat. When they entered the 'lists, he would not allow them to fight, but banished them both—Hereford for ten years, and Norfolk for life.

8. Soon afterwards, Hereford's father, the Duke of Lancaster, died, and Richard seized his estates. When Hereford heard of this, he was so enraged that he resolved to drive the King from the throne. He landed at Ravenspur² in Yorkshire with a few followers. The nobles were very much in his favour, and he was soon at the head of an army of 60,000 men, with which he entered London.

1399 A.D. 9. Richard was at that time in Ireland, and when he returned he found that his kingdom had passed from his hands. He who had left England as King had to 'surrender himself a captive to Hereford, who had now become Duke of Lancaster. He was taken to London, where he gave up the crown. He was afterwards confined in Pontefract³ Castle, where he was murdered in the thirty-fourth year of his age. He was the last King of the House of Anjou.

10. Richard the Second was a weak monarch and a selfish and passionate man. Being a lover of

pleasure more than of duty, he was fond of show, and lived in grand style. There were in his household ten thousand persons—in his kitchen alone. three hundred. During his reign the great reformer John Wycliffe lived. He translated the Bible into English. His followers were called Lollards.⁴

11. In this reign (1388) was fought the famous Battle of Otterburn,⁵ between the Douglasses and the Percies. The English were defeated, and Percy was taken prisoner; but Douglas was slain.

12. *Notes of Progress.*—At this time learning was chiefly confined to the clergy, who were also the best gardeners and farmers. The nobles cared more for war and 'sports than for learning. Few of them could either read or write!—Books were not printed: they were written with the hand. This was the work of the monks. In every monastery there was a writing-room, where manuscripts, beautifully adorned in gold and colours, were patiently copied. The books thus produced were very costly, as much as £40 being paid for a copy of the Bible.—The population of England was only about three million, or smaller than that of London now.

com-mon peo-ple, working-classes.
lev'-ied on, collected from.
lists, place set apart for the fight.
mace, club.
sports, hunting, etc.

sur-ren'-der, yield; give up.
take ven'-geance, punish the slayers
of Tyler.
tax, charge.
til'-er, coverer of houses with tiles.

¹ Smithfield.—In the heart of London. Famous as a place of execution. Wallace was executed there in 1305. Also the scene of tournaments, fairs, and, in later times, of a cattle market.
² Ravenspur.—On the northern shore of the Humber in Yorkshire; 5 miles west of Spurn Head.

³ Pon'tefract.—Commonly pronounced *Pomfret*; 21 miles south-west of York.

⁴ Lollards.—Literally *hymn-singers*; from a German word meaning to sing.

⁵ Otterburn.—In Northumberland; 20 miles south-west of Alnwick.

THE PLANTAGENETS—HOUSE OF LANCASTER.

18.—HENRY IV.—BOLINGBROKE.

1399 to 1413 A.D.—14 years.

1. With Henry the Fourth the House of Lancaster begins. Having got the crown by 'unjust means, he found it no easy task to manage the 'fiery spirit of the nobles. Many were the quarrels among them, and many were the plots laid to deprive him of the throne ; but he was watchful and active, and well knew the 'temper of the people he had to govern.

2. The greatest rebellion in his reign was that raised by the Earl of Northumberland and his son Harry Percy, 'surnamed Hotspur. They were
 1403 assisted by the Scots under the Earl of
 A.D. Douglas, who had been taken prisoner by Percy. In the bloody battle of Shrewsbury¹ the rebels were defeated, and Hotspur was slain.

3. Henry's later days were troubled by the 'vices and follies of his son Henry, called Madcap Harry. This youth, though brave and generous, was fond of 'low company, and he often got into mischief. On one occasion he and his wild friends even went so far as to commit a robbery on the highway.

4. Some of them having been captured and brought to 'justice, Harry went into 'court and asked for their release. Being refused, he struck the judge on the face ! He was at once sent to prison ;



PRINCE HENRY AND THE JUDGE.

but seeing that he had done wrong, he took the punishment quietly. When the King heard of it, he said that he was "happy in having a judge who did not fear to enforce the laws, and happier still in having a son willing to obey them."

5. Henry died in a fit of epilepsy.² He was bold and watchful, but of a harsh temper. He ruled more by fear than by love. During his reign the Lollards were much persecuted, and several of them were burned to death at Smithfield. 1413
A.D.

6. In this reign James the First of Scotland was taken prisoner, when on a voyage to France. He was kept in England for nineteen years; but he was kindly treated and well educated.

court, the place where prisoners are
fi'-er-y, fierce.
jus'-tice, trial.
low, base.

[tried.

sur'-named, who was also called.
tem'-per, nature.
un-just', wrong; unlawful.
vic-es, sins; evil deeds.

¹ Shrewsbury (*Shrozeberry*), on the Severn; county town of Shropshire. | also "the falling sickness," because it seizes the patient suddenly, and causes him to fall.

² Epilepsy. — Convulsions; called

19.—HENRY V.—MONMOUTH.

1413 to 1422 A.D.—9 years.

1. When young Henry became King, his first act was to send for his wild friends. He told them that he meant to 'lead a new life, and begged them to follow his example. He took into his favour the judge who had sent him to prison, and called to his help the wisest and best men in the land. But he treated the Lollards very cruelly, and even put some of them to death.

2. His great 'ambition was to 'get possession of France. He therefore invaded it with a large army, and took one of the chief sea-ports. But his
 1415
 A.D. army was soon 'wasted by 'disease. On his march to Calais he was met at Agincourt¹ by the French army of 100,000 men under the Duke of Orleans. Henry could not raise more than 12,000, and these were almost worn out by hunger and 'fatigue.

3. During a dark and rainy night Henry's little army lay encamped in sight of the French watch-fires. The French soldiers passed the night in idle jollity; but Henry, like a wise general, laid down his plans for battle.

4. Early in the morning the English archers led the way, and pouring on the French a deadly shower of arrows, threw them into disorder. Then the

whole force rushed forward with sword and battle-axe, and gained a complete victory. The French lost 10,000 in killed, of whom 3,000 were princes, nobles, and knights; the English lost only 1,600 men.

5. After this great victory Henry returned to England. He was warmly welcomed home; some even rushed into the sea to meet the boat that was bringing him to land; and Parliament 'voted him large supplies of money.

6. Two years later, Henry returned to France; and after gaining several successes, he was made 'Regent of France, and married the ¹⁴²² daughter of the French King. He took the ^{A.D.} field again; but just when he seemed about to reach the height of his glory, he was seized by illness and died.

7. He was a brave warrior and a clever statesman. In early life he had been wild and thoughtless; but after he came to the throne, he became a wise and a just ruler. His widow, Catherine, married a Welsh gentleman named Owen Tudor; and from them sprang the Royal House of Tudor, of which the first King was Henry the Seventh.

8. During this reign it was ordered that every citizen of London should hang a lantern at his door on winter nights; and thus began the custom of lighting the streets of towns.

am-bi'tion, strong desire
dis-ease', sickness.
fa-tigue', toil.
get pos-ses-sion of, rule over.

lead a new life, do better.
re-gent, governor.
vot-ed, agreed to give.
wäst-ed, thinned.

¹ Agincourt (*Aj-in-coor'*).—In the | Crécy, and 36 south-east of Calais.
north of Franco; 20 miles north-east of | (See *Map*, p. 51.)

20.—HENRY VI.—WINDSOR.

1422 to 1461 A.D.—39 years.

1. Henry the Sixth, son of the late King, was but an infant when his father died. A council of twenty, headed by the Duke of Gloucester, an uncle of the King, managed the 'affairs of the nation. The Duke of Bedford, another uncle of the King, went to France as English Regent. There fresh conquests were made by the English forces. Siege was then laid to Orleans;¹ and it was thought that it too would fall into their hands. But suddenly a change came, by which almost all that had been gained was lost.

2. In a certain village of France there lived a rustic girl, named Joan of Arc, who thought that Heaven had raised her up to save her country from the English armies. This was told to the French King, who, being much alarmed at the success of the English, was willing to do anything to check their 'progress.

3. He therefore put Joan at the head of some troops; and the soldiers, quite believing in her 'mission, fought under her command with the
 1429
 A.D. greatest bravery. She entered Orleans, drove the English from before the walls; defeated them in several battles, and won back for the French King the provinces he had lost. By these successes she gained the name of "The Maid of Orleans."

4. Two years later Joan of Arc was taken



JOAN OF ARC.

prisoner by the English, and was by them burned at Rouen, it is said, as a witch. But, from the time that she appeared, the power of the English in France had gradually gone down ; and in 1451 A.D. they had lost all their French possessions except Calais. Thus all the blood shed in

the former reign for the conquest of France had been shed in vain.

5. To Henry's foreign troubles were added greater troubles at home; for the Duke of Gloucester and Cardinal Beaufort,² the two most powerful friends of the House of Lancaster, had died; and there was growing up a 'great rival to the King in the person of Richard, Duke of York,' who was really the rightful heir³ to the throne.

6. Then commenced that long and bloody contest known as the War of the Roses, which lasted thirty years, and almost destroyed the old English nobility. Those who were on the side of the Duke of York wore a white rose, and those who favoured the House of Lancaster wore a red one.

7. In the very first battle, at St. Albans,⁴ the Lancastrians were defeated, and the King was
1455 made prisoner. He was, however, soon set
A.D. free, and a peace was patched up. Four years later, the war was 'renewed; and Henry was again made captive.

8. York then laid claim to the throne. The
1460 question was 'debated in Parliament; and it
A.D. was arranged that Henry should reign till his death, and that the crown should then pass to York and his heirs.

9. Queen Margaret, who had more spirit than her husband, was very angry at this shutting out of her son from the throne. Having called the Lancastrian lords to her side, she 'routed the Yorkists at Wakefield Green.⁵ The Duke of York was



ENGLAND—WAR OF THE ROSES.

slain; and his head, adorned with a paper crown, was stuck on the wall of York city.

10. This loss roused the Yorkists to greater efforts. Edward, the son and heir of the fallen Duke, laid claim to the crown. At Mortimer's

Cross⁶ he swept the Royalist troops before him.

1461 He then marched to London, and was de-
A.D. clared King, with the title of Edward the
Fourth.

11. Henry was put off the throne after a reign of thirty-nine years, and Edward was declared to be the lawful King. Henry was weak-minded and cowardly, and was wholly unfit for the kingly office. With him ended the House of Lancaster.

12. In this reign a riot was raised in Kent by one Jack Cade, who, pretending that he was heir to the crown, defeated the royal army and took possession of London. He, however, was defeated in turn, and was killed by a gentleman, in whose garden he had hidden himself.

af-fairs', business.

de-bat'-ed, talked over.

great ri'-val, claimant for the throne.

mis'-sion, work to save her country.

prog'-ress, advance.

re-newed', begun again.

rout'-ed, entirely defeated.

rus'-tic, country.

¹ Or'leans (*Or'-le-ans*).—A town on the river Loire, 60 miles south-west of Paris.

² Beau'fort.—Pronounced *Bo'-fort*.

³ Rightful heir.—He was descended, through his mother, from the third son of Edward the Third, while Henry was descended from the fourth son.

⁴ St. Albans.—In Hertfordshire; 19 miles north-west of London.

⁵ Wakefield.—In Yorkshire; 26 miles south-west of York.

⁶ Mortimer's Cross.—In the north of Herefordshire. A partial victory gained by Margaret at St. Albans, a few days later, did not save London.

THE PLANTAGENETS—HOUSE OF YORK.

21.—EDWARD IV.

1461 to 1483 A.D.—22 years.

1. With Edward the Fourth the House of York begins. Though he had won the crown, he was not allowed to enjoy it in peace. The northern parts of the country were still in favour of Henry, and raised an army for him. Several battles were fought, in which Henry was beaten; and at last he was taken prisoner and thrown into the Tower.

2. The Earl of Warwick, called The King-maker,¹ was the most powerful noble in the land. Having lost some of his influence at Court by Edward's marriage, he took offence, and resolved to try to drive him from the throne. Assisted by the Duke of Clarence, Edward's brother, and Margaret, Henry's queen, he raised so great an army that Edward was obliged to flee; and Henry was once more taken from prison, and set on the throne.

3. Edward, however, soon came back from Holland, where he had taken refuge. He was joined by vast numbers. The two armies met at Barnet,² and a terrible battle was fought, in which Warwick was slain. 1471
A.D.

4. Henry was again thrown into the Tower; but Margaret was resolved to strike another blow for her royal husband, and met Edward's forces at Tewkesbury.³ She was defeated, and she and her son Edward were taken prisoners. The King had them brought before him; and, 1471
A.D.



KING EDWARD AND PRINCE EDWARD.

enraged at the brave conduct of the young prince, he cruelly struck him in the face with his iron glove. Clarence and Gloucester then stabbed the noble youth to death with their daggers.

5. It is said that, after this, Gloucester went privately to the Tower, where King Henry was confined, and murdered him in cold blood.

6. Edward died in 1483. He was hard-hearted and cruel, as well as ambitious. His life was made up of little else than bloody deeds and wicked pleasures. Great numbers of gentlemen were put to death for favouring the House of Lancaster; and his brother Clarence was murdered in the Tower by being drowned in a butt of wine.

7. *Notes of Progress.*—In this reign the art of printing was brought into England from Germany by William Caxton, a silk mercer, who set up a press at Westminster Abbey. Letters were for the first time carried by post between London and Scotland, horsemen being placed at distances of twenty miles apart all along the road.

am-bi-tious, desirous of power.
con-fined', kept a prisoner.
in-flu-ence, power.

pri-vate-ly, alone; secretly.
strike an-oth-er blow, fight another battle.

¹ **King-maker.**—So called because he first made Edward king, and then dethroned him and put Henry in his place.

² **Barnet.**—In Hertfordshire; 11 miles north-west of London. (See *Map*.)

p. 63.) An obelisk marks the site of the battle.

³ **Tewkesbury.**—In Gloucestershire; 10 miles from Gloucester. "The Bloody Meadow," where the battle was fought, is south of the town.

22.—EDWARD V.

1483 A.D., April to June—2 months.

1. This prince was only twelve years of age at the death of the late King his father; but he was never crowned. His uncle Richard, Duke of Gloucester, was Protector, and wished to be King. He therefore had the young King and his little brother, the Duke of York, taken to the Tower, 'pretending that it was for their safety; though, in 'reality, it was that they might be 'wholly in his power.

2. Richard's next step was to get rid of all those nobles who were faithful to the young King. Accordingly, Lords Rivers, Grey, and Hastings were falsely 'accused of 'treason, and were beheaded without trial.

3. Thereafter Gloucester spread a 'report that young Edward was not the rightful King.
 1483 The crown was then offered to him by some
 A.D. nobles whose favour he had gained; and though he pretended to be unwilling, he accepted it, and was declared King.

ac-cused', charged.
 pre-tend'-ing, falsely saying.
 re-al'-i-ty, truth.

re-port', story.
 trea'-son, plotting against the King.
 whol'-ly, altogether.

23.—RICHARD III.—CROOKBACK.

1483 to 1485 A.D.—2 years.

1. The little princees in the Tower strangely disappeared. It is believed that Richard 'hired 'assassins to go and murder them. It is said that these ruffians went in the dead of night to their bedroom, where they found the innocent children asleep locked in each other's arms; and that they smothered them with their pillows, and buried their bodies at the foot of the stair that led to their room.

2. Nearly two hundred years afterwards, while some changes were being made in the Tower, the bones of two boys were found, 'answering to the age and size of the unhappy little princees. They were removed to Westminster Abbey.

3. Richard, though he had waded through blood to the throne, did not long wear the crown he had won by such wicked means. His life was one of great misery, from the fear of being murdered, and from the stings of a guilty conscience. It is said that his nights were sleepless, or were disturbed by

horrid dreams, which often made him start from his bed with a cry of terror.

4. There was also a strong party in the nation against him; and it was proposed that Henry Tudor, Earl of Richmond, who was of the House of Lancaster, should have the crown. Richmond accordingly sailed from Normandy with about 2,000 men, and landed at Milford Haven¹ in Wales. His army soon increased to 6,000. Richard met 1485
A.D. him at Bosworth Field,² near Leicester, with a larger force, and a bloody battle was fought, in which Richmond gained the victory.

5. When Richard saw that his cause was lost, he rushed into the midst of his enemies, fighting with the rage of a wild beast; and he fell covered with wounds. His crown, which he had worn in the battle, was found in a hawthorn bush close by. It was placed on the head of Richmond by Lord Stanley, who hailed him as "King Henry the Seventh."

6. The body of Richard was found among heaps of slain. It was thrown across a horse, carried to Leicester, and there buried. Richard the Third was an able statesman; but he was 'crafty and cruel, and was ready to stoop to any 'means in order to 'effect his purpose. He was the last King of the House of York.

7. *Notes of Progress.*—During the reigns of the Houses of Lancaster and York, very little progress was made in art and science. Hundreds of towns and villages were destroyed, many castles were laid in ruins, and the fields in many parts of the country were left unploughed.—The Feudal System, which



CROWNING OF HENRY VII. ON BOSWORTH FIELD.

had lasted since the Norman Conquest, now came to an end; and so did villenage or slavery, which had been common in England for many 'centuries.—The Government of the country became then what it is now—a limited monarchy. The King could make no law, nor lay any tax on the people, without the consent of Parliament.

an'-swer-ing to, very like.
as-sas'-sins, murderers.
cen-tu-ries, hundreds of years.
craf'-ty, cunning.

ef-fect' his pur'-pose, carry out his
plans.
hired, paid.
means, plans; deeds.

¹ Milford Haven.—In Pembroke-shire (Wales) It is the finest natural harbour in Britain

² Bosworth Field.—Near Market Bosworth; 11½ miles south-west of Leicester. (See Map p. 63.)

THE HOUSE OF TUDOR.

24.—HENRY VII.

1485 to 1509 A.D.—24 years.

1. With Henry the Seventh the Tudor line begins. His first care was to 'cast into the Tower the young Earl of Warwick, a boy of fifteen, of the House of York, and the 'proper heir to the throne. He was kept prisoner fifteen years, and was then beheaded.

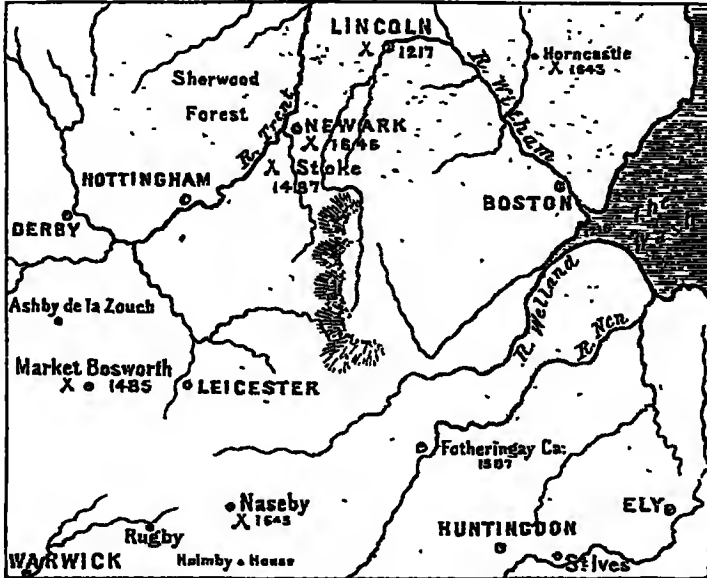
2. Henry married Elizabeth of York, daughter of Edward the Fourth. The White and Red Roses being thus united, those wars that for thirty years had been robbing England of her 'best blood came to an end; and men began to follow the arts of peace.

3. The beginning of the reign, however, was disturbed by 'pretenders. Lambert Simnel, a baker's son, pretended to be the young Earl of Warwick, who was at that very time a prisoner in the Tower.

4. In Ireland he found great favour, and was crowned King under the title of Edward the Sixth; and though young Warwick was ¹⁴⁸⁷
brought out of his cell, and openly shown, _{A.D.} yet Simnel entered England with an army, and marched into Nottinghamshire. He was defeated at Stoke,¹ taken prisoner, and made a serving boy in the King's kitchen!

5. The next pretender was Perkin Warbeck. He gave out that he was the Duke of York, who, with his brother Edward the Fifth, was said to have been murdered in the Tower; and he was so like that little prince and his father, Edward the Fourth, that

many believed him to be the real duke. The King of Scotland was so sure of it, that he took him into favour, and gave him a daughter of Earl Huntly in marriage.



6. But before Warbeck could bring an army into the field, his plot was discovered. Many noble-
 1499 men of his party were taken and put to
 A.D. death. Warbeck himself was seized, put into the 'stocks, made to read aloud a confession of his 'guilt, and afterwards hanged. His widow was taken into the service of the English Queen.

7. Henry, being now 'firmly seated on the throne, took great pains to increase his wealth. In doing so he was greatly helped by Empson and Dudley, who laid heavy fines on all who offended the King,



PERKIN WARDECK IN THE STOCKS.

and sometimes even seized for his benefit the estates of the rich. It is said that he died worth twelve million 'sterling. In spite of his greed for money, he was a wise and able ruler. 1509
A.D.

8. *Notes of Progress.*—In this reign the 'New World was discovered by Columbus, who landed on the Bahama Islands.² A passage to India by the Cape of Good Hope was discovered by Vasco de Gama. The marriage of the Princess Margaret with James the Fourth of Scotland in 1502 led, about one hundred years later, to the Union of the Crowns.

best blood, noblest men.
cast, throw.
firm-ly seat'-ed, secure; safe.
guilt, falsehood.
New World, America.
pre-tend'-ers, men who claimed the

throne, but who were not the persons
they said they were.
prop'-er, true.
ster'-ling, standard money.
stocks, frame-work for confining the
legs.

¹ Stoke.—In Nottinghamshire: 4 miles south-west of Newark.

² Baha'ma Islands.—A group in the West Indies, east of Florida.

25.—HENRY VIII. (PART I.)

1509 to 1547 A.D.—38 years.

1. Henry the Eighth, son of the late King, was eighteen years old when he came to the throne. As his father was of the House of Lancaster and his mother of the House of York, he united the two Houses in his own person. He married Catherine of Aragon, widow of his elder brother Arthur.

2. When Henry came to the throne the nation was at peace, and his 'treasury was full with the wealth which his father's greed had gained. But he gave himself up to pleasure and gaiety, and soon wasted all his riches.

3. In 1513 he invaded France, and gained the Battle of Spurs,¹—so called because the French
1513 made more use of spurs in 'fleeing than of
A.D. swords in fighting. While he was away, James the Fourth of Scotland invaded England; but he was defeated and slain on Flodden² Field.

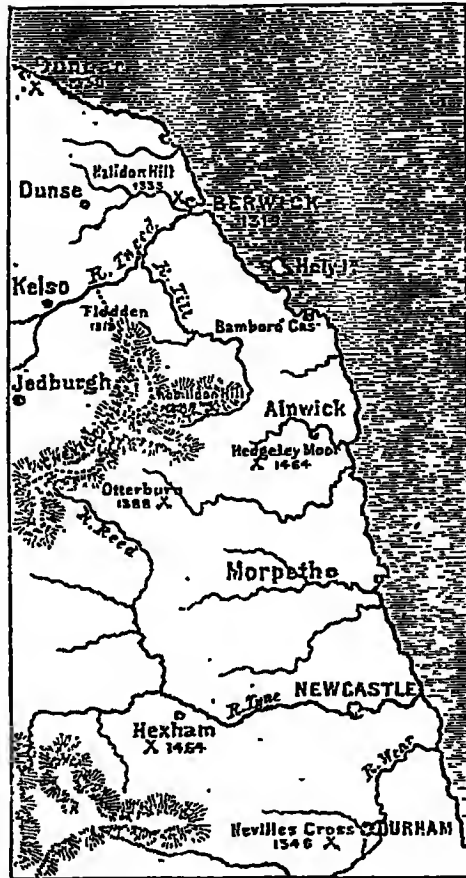
4. Henry's chief friend and adviser in the early part of his reign was Thomas Wolsey, who, from a low 'rank in life, rose to the highest offices in the kingdom. When a boy he was very fond of books. At fourteen years of age he took the degree of 'B.A. at Oxford, and was called the Boy Bachelor.

5. Henry, finding Wolsey well able to assist him in all his plans, took him into favour. Wolsey,
1515 being also in great favour with the Pope,
A.D. soon rose to be Archbishop of York, and Cardinal. He had eight hundred followers, and he dressed in the most costly robes.

6. But his glory did not last long. In trying to serve two masters, he lost the favour of both. Henry, after having lived eighteen years with Catherine of Aragon, became tired of her, and fell in love with Anne Boleyn, one of her maids of honour. He therefore asked Wolsey to say that his marriage with his brother's widow had been unlawful, and to give him a divorce.

7. Wolsey durst not refuse, and so displease the King; and he durst not comply, and so displease the Pope. He therefore put off the matter from time to time, until the King in anger took from him all his riches and power, and charged him with high treason.

8. But Wolsey was never tried. While on his way to London, filled with grief and remorse, he was taken ill, and he died in Leicester Abbey. On his death-bed he said, "Had I served my God as diligently as I have served the King, he



1530
A.D.



DISMISSAL OF WOLSEY.

would not have 'given me over in my gray hairs!'"

9. In the meantime Henry had put away Catherine, and married Anne Boleyn. The Pope said that he was wrong, and went against him.

1534 Henry defied the Pope. The payment of money to Rome was forbidden, and the Papal

A.D. power in England was set aside by Act of Parliament.

B.A., Bachelor of Arts.
diligently, carefully.
di-*vor*ce', separation.
flee'-ing, running away.
given me o'-ver, deserted me.

rank, position.
re-morse', sorrow for the wrong he
had done.
treas'-u-ry, storehouse of money.
un-law'-ful, not according to law.

¹ Battle of Spurs. — Fought at Guinegate, near Terouenne; 12 miles east of Boulogne, in the north of France.

² Flodden. — In Northumberland; 14 miles south-west of Berwick. (See Map, p. 75.)

26.—HENRY VIII. (PART II.)

1. Meanwhile a great religious change, called the Reformation, was taking place in Germany. Henry had at first opposed it, and had written a book against Luther,¹ its leader. But now that he had quarrelled with the Pope, he sided with the Reformers. Having called himself Head of the Church, he began to destroy the 'monasteries throughout England, to turn the 'monks out into the world, and to seize their riches.

2. Then followed a long 'persecution. Henry made a law that every one must, on pain of death, believe what the Head of the Church 1539
believed. By this law Roman Catholics were A.D.
burned to death for not calling him Head of the Church; and Protestants, for not believing his 'doctrines. Such numbers 'suffered death through this law that it was ever afterwards known as the Bloody Statute.

3. Henry had now become tired of his second wife, Anne Boleyn, and had fallen in love with the beautiful Jane Seymour. He ac- 1536
cused Anne of evil ways, and had her A.D.
beheaded. The very next day he married Jane Seymour; but she died in less than a year, after giving birth to a son (afterwards Edward the Sixth).

4. He then married a fourth wife, Anne of Cleves;² but not liking her, he put her away, with a pension of £3,000 a year. The same year he married a fifth wife, Catherine Howard. Before another year was gone he had her beheaded for

her wicked life before her marriage. Shortly afterwards he married his sixth and last wife, Catherine Parr, who outlived him.

5. During the later part of his life, Henry became very fat and heavy, and 'diseased'; and
 1547 not having patience to bear his trials, he is
 A.D. said to have been more like a chained lion than like a 'human being.

6. In early life Henry was of a gay and generous nature; but as years advanced he became deceitful and cruel. Towards the end of his reign he spared neither friend nor foe, and gained the character of a blood-thirsty tyrant. It is said that seventy-two thousand persons suffered death for various offences during his reign. He left three children;—Mary, daughter of Catherine of Aragon; Elizabeth, daughter of Anne Boleyn; and Edward, son of Jane Seymour;—each of whom afterwards sat upon the throne.

7. *Notes of Progress.*—In this reign, the Bible, made cheaper by means of printing, began to find its way into the houses of the people.—For writing against Luther, Henry received from the Pope the title of Defender of the Faith.³ All English Sovereigns since that time have borne this title.—A great meeting took place in France between Henry and the French King; and such was the splendour displayed, that the meeting was called The Field of the Cloth of Gold.

dis-eased', in bad health.

doc-trines, teachings.

hu'-man be-ing, man.

mon-as-ter-ies, religious houses in which monks lived.

monks, men who lived apart from the world.

per-se-cu'-tion, infliction of suffering and death.

suf-fered death, were killed.

¹ **Luther.** — Martin Luther, the great German reformer, was at first a monk. He preached strongly against the sale of pardons by the Pope. He afterwards translated the Bible into German. Born 1483; died 1516.

² **Anne of Cleves,** daughter of the Duke of Cleves, a German nobleman.

³ **Defender of the Faith.** — The title is shown by the letters F.D. (for the Latin *Fidei Defensor*, Defender of the Faith) on the coins of the realm.

27.—EDWARD VI.

1547 to 1553 A.D.—6 years.

1. Edward the Sixth was the son of the late King and Jane Seymour. Being only ten years of age, his uncle, the Duke of Somerset, was made Protector. He was a Protestant, and, with the help of Archbishop Cranmer, and Bishops Ridley and Latimer, he did much to help forward the Reformation in England.

2. The late King had set his heart on the marriage of Edward with Mary,¹ the young Queen of Scots. The 'proposals for this 'match were now 'renewed; but the Scots would not agree. Somerset therefore led an army into Scotland, and gained the Battle of Pinkie.² But Mary was sent to France, where she married the Dauphin; that is, the eldest son of the French King.

3. Soon after this, Somerset, by taking too much power to himself, lost the 'favour of the people; and his rival, the Earl of Northumberland, sought his ruin. Many charges having been brought against him, he was tried for high treason, and was beheaded; and Northumberland took his place as Protector.

4. The King's health now began to give way; and Northumberland, 'thirsting for still greater

power, got him to 'make a will leaving the crown to the Earl's daughter-in-law, Lady Jane Grey. Lady Jane was the grand-daughter of Mary Tudor, a sister of Henry the Eighth. As Henry's two daughters, Mary and Elizabeth, were alive, Lady Jane had no right to the crown.

5. Edward grew worse ; and Northumberland, ever by his bedside, placed him under the care of an old woman, who engaged to 'cure him.

1553

The young King, however, grew worse and

A.D.

worse, till at last he died ; and it is even said by some that his end was hastened, if not by poison, at least by 'neglect. He was 'amiable and learned, and his death caused much sorrow to the nation.

a'-mi-a-ble, kind.

cure, heal.

fa'-vour, good-will.

make a will, give directions to be followed after his death.

match, marriage.

ne-glect', being overlooked.

pro-pos'-als, offers.

re-newed', made again.

thirst'-ing, greatly desiring.

¹ Mary. — That is, Mary Stewart, afterwards beheaded at Fotheringay.

² Pinkie. — About 5 miles east of Edinburgh.

28.—MARY I.

1553 to 1558 A.D.—5 years.

1. On Edward's death, Lady Jane Grey was proclaimed Queen, by order of her 'father-in-law, the Protector. This was very much against her own wish ; for she knew that, while any child of Henry the Eighth lived, she had no right to the crown. Mary, daughter of Henry and Catherine of Aragon, put forth her claim ; and the people being in her favour, Lady Jane gladly gave up the crown to her.

2. Mary ordered Northumberland, Lady Jane, and her husband Lord Dudley, to be seized and put in prison. Northumberland was at once put to death. The others, with sixty of their 'supporters, were beheaded in the following year.

3. Mary had promised to uphold the religious laws of Edward the Sixth; but, being a Roman Catholic, she at once began to undo the work of the Reformation. Cranmer, Ridley, and Latimer were cast into prison; and soon afterwards they, and many others, were 'burned at the stake. In the last three years of Mary's reign, two hundred and eighty-eight men, women, and children were burned to death for their religion.

4. Mary had married Philip the Second of Spain. His conduct towards her was 'cold and careless. This, together with the hatred of her subjects, 'preyed on her mind. Then came the news 1558
that Calais, in France, which had been in the A.D.
hands of the English for two hundred years, was 'lost. This broke her spirit. She fell into a slow fever, of which she died, after an unhappy reign of five years.

5. Mary's temper was 'sour'd by the troubles of her early life, and in her later years she became sad and 'gloomy. She has been called Bloody Mary. We should, however, rather pity the Queen whose heart had lost the 'mercy natural to woman, and who died hated by her subjects.

burned at the stake, chained to a post and burned to death. cold, without affection. fa'ther-in-law, husband's father. gloom'y, unhappy; miserable.	lost, retaken by the French. mer-cy, tenderness. preyed, weighed heavily. sour'd, made harsh. sup-port-ers, followers.
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29.—ELIZABETH. (PART I.)

1558 to 1603 A.D.—45 years.

1. Elizabeth was the daughter of Henry the Eighth and Anne Boleyn. When she came to the throne the nation was filled with joy. The Protestant religion was set up again, and the Church of England took its present form. The Thirty-nine Articles of belief, which Cranmer had written, were placed in the Prayer Book.

2. Mary, Queen of Scotland, who had married the Dauphin of France, now laid claim to the crown of England; but her husband died, and she left France a widow only nineteen years old, with none to press her claim. She was disliked by her Scottish subjects, as she was a Roman Catholic; and after seven years of trouble she was dethroned.

3. She fled to England, and threw herself on the mercy of Elizabeth. But Elizabeth could never look on Mary in any other way than as a rival for her crown. Her presence in England was a cause of real danger, as many persons thought that she had a better right to the throne than Elizabeth, and all the Roman Catholics were in her favour.

4. Queen Mary was therefore thrown into prison, and was confined for upwards of eighteen years. During that time several plots were formed by her friends for her release. At last one, headed by Antony Babington, was discovered, by which it was intended to murder Elizabeth and set Mary on the throne.

5. Fourteen of the plotters were put to death.



MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS LISTENING TO HER DEATH-WARRANT.

Mary was then brought to trial, and was found guilty of having agreed to the plot. She was therefore 'doomed to die, and was beheaded in Fotheringay¹ Castle, where she had been last **1587**
imprisoned. **A.D.**

6. Philip of Spain, who had married Mary, Elizabeth's sister, now offered his hand to Elizabeth, but was

rejected. This made him very angry, and he fitted out a great fleet for the invasion of England. He took this step not only because Elizabeth had refused to marry him, but also with the hope of setting up again the Catholic religion in England.

7. So sure did he feel of success, that he called his fleet the "Invincible Armada."² It consisted of one hundred and thirty-two ships, most of them of great size, and carrying a great many cannons of brass. There were 20,000 soldiers on board; and there was an army of 40,000 on the coast of Flanders,³ ready to be sent to England on the shortest notice.

8. The Navy of England contained only thirty-six small vessels; but a great effort was made
1588
A.D. by the whole nation—by Catholics as well as by Protestants—and about one hundred and ninety ships in all were sent out to defend the coasts. Lord Howard, the commander, was himself a Roman Catholic; and under him were the famous sailors Drake and Hawkins.

9. The Armada came full sail up the English Channel, stretching for seven miles across the waters. The English fleet sailed out of Plymouth harbour to meet it. The battle began, and much damage was done to the ships of the enemy; which, however, sailed as far as to Calais, the little English ships chasing them all the way.

10. Off Calais they anchored; and Lord Howard, in the middle of a dark night, sent eight fire-ships right among them, which greatly terrified the Spaniards, and threw their fleet into disorder. The Eng-

lish fleet then attacked them with great bravery, destroyed twelve large ships, and put the rest to flight. Many of their vessels were wrecked on the Orkney Islands, others were lost on the coast of Ireland, and only a very small portion of the great Armada ever returned to Spain.

an'-chored, stayed their ships by	fleet, number of ships.
doomed, sentenced. [anchors.	na'-vy, war-ships.
fire'-ships, ships full of burning mat-	re-ject'-ed, refused.
ter to set the enemy's ships on fire.	ter'-ri-fied, frightened.

¹ Fotheringay.—In Northampton-shire; 10 miles south-west of Peterborough. The castle was razed to the ground by order of James the First, soon after his accession to the throne.

² Arma'da, a fleet of armed ships. It was called "Invincible," because Philip thought it could not be beaten.
³ Flanders, the southern part of what is now Belgium

30.—ELIZABETH. (PART II.)

1. Elizabeth, though she never married, had great favourites 'at Court. Towards the close of her life her chief favourite was the Earl of Essex, a brave and generous young nobleman, but 'rash and 'head-strong.

2. He was in the army, and having been sent to Ireland to put down a rebellion, he displeased Elizabeth by making peace with the rebels and going home without leave. For this he was turned out of office, and sent to prison; but the Queen forgave him.

3. He, however, afterwards raised a rebellion against her; but he was taken prisoner, and condemned to die. Now the Queen had once 1601
A.D. given him a ring, telling him that if ever he should get into trouble, and should send that ring to her, she would protect him.

4. Essex, lying in prison, thought of the ring, and sent it to Elizabeth by the Countess of Nottingham; but her husband was no friend to Essex, and would not allow her to give it up. Elizabeth, no doubt, also thought of the ring, and quite expected it to be sent; but it never came, and Essex was beheaded in the Tower.

5. Two years afterwards, when the Countess lay on her death-bed, she confessed 'her crime to the Queen. As soon as Elizabeth heard her words, she was so enraged that she shook the dying Countess, and said, "God may forgive you, but I never will."

6. The Queen never got over her grief. She lay ten days and nights on pillows on the floor, refusing to take either food or medicine; and died, most likely of a broken heart, in the seventieth year of her age, and the forty-fifth of her reign. With her ended the House of Tudor.

7. Elizabeth was as learned as well as a clever woman. Like all the Tudors, she was strong-willed, and angry when opposed; but she tried to make England a great nation, and she succeeded. Her weak points were her 'vanity and her fondness for favourites.

8. In this reign two famous Acts were passed;—the Act of Supremacy,¹ by which all servants of the State had to take an oath declaring Elizabeth to be Head of the Church; and the Act of Conformity,² by which all persons were forbidden to worship except according to the forms of the 'Established Church. Under these two Acts many Roman Catholics were put to death; and the

1603
A.D.

1559
A.D.

Puritans, who wished what they called a pure and simple form of worship, were fined and imprisoned.

9. *Notes of Progress.*—In this reign the first voyage of an English ship round the world was made, by Sir Francis Drake. Tea was brought



SIR FRANCIS DRAKE.

from China by the Dutch; potatoes and tobacco from America by Sir Walter Raleigh. Birmingham and Sheffield became famous for 'hardware, and Manchester for the cotton manufacture. The first newspaper, called *The English Mercurie*, appeared in this reign.

10. Under the Tudors, England became great and powerful. After the defeat of the Armada she was mistress of the seas. Commerce was greatly advanced, and many unknown lands were discovered.

Learning was much advanced by persons of rank, and knowledge was more widely spread among the people.

<p>at court, among those who attended on her. com-merce, trade with other lands. E-stab-lished Church, Church set up by law.</p>	<p>hard-ware, metal goods. head-strong, self-willed. her crime, having kept back the ring. rash, hasty; thoughtless. van-i-ty, fondness for dress.</p>
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¹ Act of Supremacy.—An Act declaring the Queen to be the *supreme* or highest power in the Church.

² Act of Conformity.—An Act requiring all persons to conform to the rules and worship of the Church. Those who refused to do so were called Nonconformists; that is, Dissenters.

THE HOUSE OF STEWART.

31.—JAMES I.

1603 to 1625 A.D.—22 years.

1. When King James the Sixth of Scotland came to the throne of England he was called James the First. He was the first of the Stewart¹ kings. He was the only son of Mary Queen of Scots, and Mary was granddaughter of Henry the Seventh's daughter Margaret. He married the Princess Anne of Denmark.

2. James at once began to set up the 'Episcopal Church throughout Great Britain. At this the Roman Catholics were very angry, as they had hoped that James, being a Stewart, would favour their cause. Certain wild spirits among them therefore made up their minds to get rid of King, 'Lords, and 'Commons at one blow.

3. For this purpose the Gunpowder Plot was



ARREST OF GUY FAWKES.

formed by Catesby and others. A cellar beneath the Parliament House was hired. Thirty-six barrels of gunpowder were secretly placed there, and were covered with coals and fagots. A Spaniard, named Guy Fawkes, was hired to set fire to the whole, at the opening of Parliament,² when the Royal Family, together with the Lords and Commons, should be present.

Nov. 5,
1605
A.D.

4. But the plot was found out from a letter written by one of the plotters to a friend, whose life he wished to save. This letter was shown to the King, who, guessing what was meant, ordered the 'vaults beneath the House of Lords to be searched.

There Guy Fawkes was found. He had laid the 'train, and was ready with matches and lantern to do the dreadful work.

5. The rest of the plotters fled into Staffordshire, where a rising in aid of the plot had been arranged to take place. Most of them were 'cut down while fighting. Others were taken, tried, and doomed to die; but some were pardoned. Very severe laws against Roman Catholics were then passed. They were not allowed to be doctors, or lawyers, or even to live in London; and any one was allowed to break into their houses and spoil their goods.

6. The first great work of this reign was the translation of the Bible. Forty-seven scholars were engaged on the work for three years; and the result was the authorized 'version.

1611
A.D.

7. After the death of Lord Cecil, a wise statesman and the faithful adviser of the King, James began to quarrel with his Parliament. He chose favourites from the lower ranks, and by raising them above the nobles, caused much ill-feeling.

8. He tried by all means to increase his power over the Parliament and the people; and some of the clergy who wished to flatter him began to preach that the King was above all laws, as he derived his power directly from God. On the other hand, the Parliament would not let the King have his way, and refused to 'vote him money.

9. James, on his part, laid heavy fines on the people, and sold titles. This breach between King and people grew wider and wider until the death of James; and at last it ended in the

1625
A.D.

overthrow of the Stewart Kings. James died of gout and ague, aged fifty-nine.

10. James possessed an ungainly person and rough manners. He was generous, but he was also self-willed and vain. He believed that he had a right to rule as he pleased, without attending to the wishes of his subjects.

Com'mons, members of the Lower House.	Lords, members of the Upper House of Parliament.
cut down, slain.	train, line of gunpowder.
E-pis-co-pal Church, Church governed by bishops.	vaults, cellars.
fag-ots, bundles of sticks.	ver'sion, same reading.
	vote, agree to give.

¹ Stewart.—This is the proper way to spell the name, which was derived from the name of the office of Steward, held by the founder of the family.

² Opening of Parliament.—Par-

liament is usually opened by the King or the Queen, who goes in state to the House of Lords. There the Commons are called to join the Lords and to listen to the speech from the throne.

32.—CHARLES I. (PART I.)

1625 to 1649 A.D.—24 years.

1. Charles the First was the son of the late King. He married Henrietta, daughter of the King of France. His reign was one long struggle for power between himself and his Parliament—a struggle which cost him his crown and his life.

2. The first great event of his reign was an attempt made by the English, under the Duke of Buckingham, to help the French Protestants, who were besieged by the French Catholics in Rochelle,¹ on the Bay of Biscay. The English were driven back with great loss, and returned home; and the Duke of Buckingham, when setting

1627
A.D.

out to make a second attempt, was killed by an assassin.

3. To please the Parliament, Charles unwillingly granted the famous Act known as the Petition of Right.²

This was a law to

prevent the

1628 King from

A.D.

levying taxes

without the consent

of Parliament, from

keeping any one in

prison without trial,

and from sending

soldiers to live in

private houses. But

Charles very soon

broke this law; and when the Commons complained,

he went to the House in person to rebuke them.

The door was locked against him; but he got a

blacksmith to break it open, and then he sent nine

of the members to prison.

4. For eleven years after this (1629–1640) he called no Parliament, but governed the country by his own will. Over State affairs he placed the Earl of Strafford; and over the Church was Archbishop Laud. All who opposed the King's will were punished by the Court of Star Chamber. All who differed in religion from Laud were punished by the Court of High Commission.

5. That, however, which caused the greatest dis-



CHARLES I.

content throughout the nation was the levy of Ship-money. This was a tax raised by the order of the King alone. Its object was said to be to increase the navy, but in reality it was meant to support a 'standing army in time of peace. John Hampden, one of the leaders of the Parliament men, refused to pay it, and was tried; and the judges decided against him. 1637 A.D.

6. This decision helped to bring matters to a 'head. The Long Parliament³ met in 1640. In its first 'session Strafford was charged with treason and was beheaded. Four years later, Laud also was beheaded. The Roman Catholics of Ireland rose in rebellion, and a massacre of the Protestants followed. Forty thousand men, women, and children are said to have been slaughtered. 1641 A.D. 1645 A.D.

7. There were now two great parties in the State—the Cavaliers and the Roundheads. The former sided with the King; the latter opposed him. The Parliament was chiefly composed of Roundheads; and the breach between them and Charles grew wider and wider, until one day he sent orders for five of the members to be seized for high treason.

8. The Commons refused to give them up. Next day he went to the House with armed soldiers to seize them; but before he entered, the five members had escaped. All London was aroused, and the streets were filled with crowds of people stirred with anger against the King. Charles in fear fled to York. The Commons demanded that he should give up the command of the army. Charles said, "No; not for an hour."



CAVALIER AND ROUNDHEAD.

9. The 'Civil War then began. Most of the nobility, gentry, and clergy were in favour of the King, who set up his standard at Nottingham
 1642 A.D. with an army of 10,000 men. The inhabitants of London and the large towns, chiefly merchants, tradesmen, and shopkeepers, were for the Parliament. They raised an army, under the Earl of Essex, to oppose the King.

10. During this terrible war, which lasted twelve
 1644 A.D. years, ten battles were fought. Charles was at first victorious; but at Marston Moor⁴ his army was totally defeated, chiefly by
 1645 A.D. Oliver Cromwell's stubborn troopers called "Ironsides." Again at Naseby⁵ the King's



ENGLAND—THE CIVIL WAR.

troops were utterly routed, and his hopes destroyed.

11. He then fled to Oxford, and afterwards to the Scottish army at Newark.⁶ The Scots offered to take his part if he would sign the Covenant,⁷ and

promise to uphold the Presbyterian religion. This, however, he refused to do; and the Scots, 1647 before returning to their own country, handed A.D. him over to the Parliament.

as-sas'sin, murderer.

civ-il war, war between two parties of the same nation.

head, point when affairs must be settled one way or another.

lev-y-ing, collecting.

re-buke', find fault with.

ses-sion, period during which Parliament sits.

stand-ing ar-my, an army constantly ready for service.

state af-fairs', public business.

¹ Rochelle' (*Ro-she'*), an island near the coast of France. There was a castle on it.

² Petition of Right.—This was a Petition from the Commons setting forth their Rights.

³ Long Parliament.—So called from the time during which it lasted. It was not finally dissolved till 1660

⁴ Marston Moor.—In Yorkshire; 4 or 5 miles west of York.

⁵ Naseby.—In Northamptonshire.

⁶ Newark.—On the Trent; 20 miles north-east of Nottingham. (For Newark, Naseby, etc., see *Map*, p. 95.)

⁷ The Covenant.—The deed by which Presbyterians bound themselves to uphold their religion.

33.—CHARLES I. (PART II.)

1. The Parliament was now divided into two



OLIVER CROMWELL.

parties—Presbyterians and Independents: the former wished only to 'limit the King's power, not to destroy it; the latter, of whom Cromwell was chief, wished to do away with the kingly office. By secret orders from Cromwell, Charles was seized, and carried to Hampton Court.¹

Thence he escaped to the Isle of Wight; but being forced to take refuge in Carisbrooke Castle,² he was there closely watched.

2. The Parliament, in which the Presbyterians had most power, now began to fear Cromwell, and to suspect him of planning the death of the King.

3. Cromwell sent Colonel Pride, with a number of troopers, to surround the House of Commons, and to prevent any from entering who did not favour his designs. Two hundred Presbyterians were therefore turned away, and only about forty Independents were allowed to enter. This was called "Pride's Purge." Those that remained voted thanks to Cromwell, and resolved on the death of the King. 1648
A.D.

4. Out of this scanty House, with some persons from the army, was formed the High Court of Justice, for the trial of the King. Before this Court the King was brought, and was accused of acts of tyranny—of raising taxes without the consent of Parliament, and of making war on his subjects.

5. After a trial of seven days, he was condemned to death. He was beheaded in front of Whitehall³ Palace, before a crowd of people, on a cold winter day, when the ground was covered with snow. His bleeding head was held up by the headsman, who called out, "This is the head of a traitor." Jan. 30,
1649
A.D.

6. Charles was fine-looking, and skilled in all knightly arts. He was a well-meaning prince; but he was led astray by his father's views about the right of kings to govern as they pleased. He was



CHARLES I. ON THE WAY TO EXECUTION.

not strong enough in will to think and act for himself; but his greatest fault was that he did not keep faith with his subjects.

7. Of Charles's sons, two, Charles and James, became King in turn. One of his daughters, Elizabeth, died in Carisbrooke Castle of a broken heart after her father's execution; another, Mary, married the Prince of Orange, and was the mother of William the Third.

8. *Notes of Progress.*—During this reign the Irish linen manufacture was established. Letters were sent by a weekly post. Coffee was now first used in England.

a-stray, wrong.

de-signs', plans.

faith, promises.

heads'-man, man who cut off the

[head.

knight'-ly arts, military exercises

lim-it, keep within bounds.

scant'-y, small.

sus-pect' him, think him guilty.

¹ Hampton Court.—A palace near the village of Hampton on the Thames, 15 miles above London.

2 miles west of Newport, in the Isle of Wight.

² Carlsbrook.—A village and castle

³ Whitehall, in London, near the Houses of Parliament.

THE COMMONWEALTH.

34.—OLIVER CROMWELL.

PROTECTOR, 1653 to 1658 A.D.

1. The first act of the Commons after the death of Charles was to 'abolish the House of Lords, and to govern the country alone. Young Charles, the son of the late King, was, however, accepted as King by the Scots; who, though they had opposed his father, had no wish to overturn the throne.

Charles therefore went to Scotland, signed the Covenant, and was crowned at Scone.¹ 1650 A.D.

2. Cromwell then led an army into Scotland, and defeated the Scots, under David Leslie, at Dunbar.² But Charles gathered together the scattered remains of his army, and boldly marched into England. He was followed by Cromwell to Worcester, and was there completely defeated. He sought safety in flight, and wandered about in the Midland Counties for more than a month, chased by his enemies. 1651 A.D.

3. It is said that on one occasion, seeing some of Cromwell's troopers coming in search of him, he

climbed into an oak-tree. There he hid himself for many hours, and saw through the leaves the red coats of his pursuers, as they rode under him! When the troopers were gone, he took refuge with a family friendly to him; and, disguised as a peasant, he worked at cutting fagots. After some time, he reached the sea-shore, where he got on board a vessel and escaped to France.

4. During the Dutch War for the mastery at sea, a great battle was fought between the English and Dutch fleets off Portland,³ in which
1653 A.D. Admiral Blake defeated the Dutch Admiral Tromp, capturing many of the enemy's ships and destroying others.

5. A dispute having arisen between Cromwell and the Parliament, the former marched to the House of Commons with three hundred soldiers. Leaving these outside, he entered; and walking up and down with his hat on, he began to rail against the members. Then, stamping on the floor, he
1653 A.D. said, "Get you gone, and give way to honest men." His soldiers poured in, and quickly cleared the House. He left the hall, locked the door, and went home with the key in his pocket.

6. A new Parliament was formed from the lower orders of the people. It was called Barebone's Parliament, after one of its leading members; but it was soon sent away by Cromwell, who was chosen by his officers Lord Protector of the Commonwealth.

7. Oliver Cromwell, now really Sovereign of Eng-

942
T1S

CROMWELL DISMISSING THE PARLIAMENT.

land, called a lawful Parliament, and ruled the nation with wisdom. He tried to form a new House of Lords; but in this he failed. His second House of Commons refused to acknowledge his new peers. He therefore sent it away; and after that he reigned according to his own will.

1654
A.D.

8. But he was no longer happy. Plot after plot was laid against him. A book was written called *Killing no Murder*, in which his death was said to be needed by the nation. On reading this his

mind was filled with fear. He always afterwards carried pistols, and wore armour under his clothes.

9. At length his health gave way: he was seized with a fever, and died in the fifty-ninth year
 1658 of his age, leaving two sons, Richard and
 A.D. Henry, and four daughters. Cromwell was one of the ablest rulers England ever had. He had a clear mind, a strong will, and great courage. He was certainly ambitious; but he had a firm regard for duty.

10. Richard Cromwell, by his father's will, was made Protector; but in five months he gave up the office, and withdrew to his farm, where he lived as a country gentleman.

11. The country was now in a state of alarm. The army seemed to have all power, and every one feared that it would rule the nation; but General Monk marched from Scotland⁴ with 7,000 troops, entered London, and proposed a free Parliament.

This new Parliament met, and sent a message
 1660 to Charles asking him to return to his country
 A.D. and wear the crown. This he gladly agreed to do, and he entered London on the 29th of May, —his thirtieth birthday.

a-bol'ish, do away with.
 ar-mour, a coat of mail.
 cap'tur-ing, carrying off.
 law-ful, according to law.

low'er or'ders, poor classes.
 need-ed by, for the benefit of.
 peas'-ant, country man.
 rail a-gainst', speak angrily to.

¹ Scone (*Skoon*), 2½ miles north of Perth. In its ancient abbey the Kings of Scotland used to be crowned, sitting on a famous stone (the *Lia Fail*, or Stone of Destiny), now part of the coronation chair in Westminster Abbey.

² Dunbar.—On the coast; nearly 30 miles east of Edinburgh.

³ Portland.—A peninsula in the south of Dorsetshire.

⁴ From Scotland.—Where he had been sent by Cromwell.

THE HOUSE OF STEWART RESTORED.

35.—CHARLES II. (PART I.)

1660 to 1685 A.D.—25 years.

1. Great was the joy throughout England when Charles the Second entered London. The road was strewn with flowers, and the bells rang merrily for the Restoration of Monarchy. The people, weary of the strict mode of life of the Puritans, were very glad to have the throne filled by a King who cared for little else than worldly pleasure; and the serious mood of the former time was exchanged for a gay and heartless spirit, which too soon spread over the whole nation.

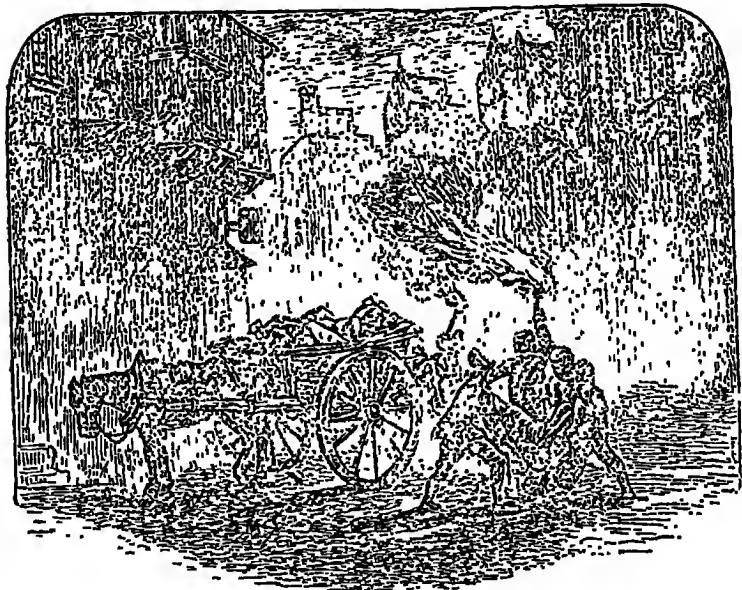
1660
A.D.

2. So great was the delight of the people at getting back their King, that no care was taken to prevent him from taking all power into his own hands. The Parliament granted him a yearly allowance of £1,200,000 for life; and with part of this money he supported some regiments for the protection of his own person. Thus all that had been gained by the struggle with monarchy was lost again.

3. About thirty of the men who had taken part in putting Charles the First to death were tried, and ten of them were executed. The bodies of Cromwell and two other leaders of the Parliament were taken from their graves and hanged on gibbets.

4. In this reign London was visited by a terrible

• Plague, which in one summer carried off 100,000 persons. The rich fled in terror from the city; trade and commerce stood still; grass grew in the streets, the silence of which was broken only by the rumbling of the dead-cart and



THE DEAD-CART.

the 'wail of the plague-stricken people. Some, however, tried to drown their fear in drunkenness and 'rioting, even in the midst of the terrible plague.

5. On many of the dwellings where the disease had entered was written, " Lord, have mercy on us." Great pits were dug in the neighbourhood of London, a quantity of lime was thrown in, and into these the bodies of the 'victims were thrown, heaps upon heaps, from the dead-cart.

6. In the following year the Great Fire of London broke out in the night of Sunday, September 2nd. The wind was high, and the flames spread rapidly among the wooden houses. They burned fiercely for four days, and laid waste the City,¹ properly so called. 1666 A.D.

7. Hundreds of streets, thousands of houses, and many churches, including St. Paul's,² were destroyed. It is wonderful that not more than seven or eight lives were lost. The flames made night as light as day for ten miles around London! This awful fire, however, did great good, by destroying those parts in which the plague lurked, and burning out its last dregs.

dregs, remains.
lurked, remained hid.
plague, sickness.

ri-ot-ing, noisy revelry.
vic-tims, dead.
wail, cry of sorrow.

¹ The City.—The oldest part of London is so called. It extends from the Temple to the Tower, and from Smithfield to the Thames.

² St. Paul's.—The oldest church in London; built on the site, it was said, of a temple of Diana. The present building was begun by the great architect Sir Christopher Wren in 1675, and was finished in 1710.

36.—CHARLES II. (PART II.)

1. A great persecution of Presbyterians and Dissenters commenced in the reign of Charles, who, though he had promised not to interfere with religion, set his heart on allowing no form of worship but that of the Church of England. Accordingly, with the help of the Earl of Clarendon, an Act of Uniformity was passed; and two thousand ministers, who had got their livings under Cromwell, were turned out, and forbidden to preach.

2. Many Dissenters were thrown into prison. One of these was John Bunyan, who lay twelve years in Bedford jail, and wrote *The Pilgrim's Progress* during his prison life. Heavy fines were laid on all who refused to worship in the Church of England. Any who met in other churches were hunted down by bands of soldiers, and were imprisoned.

3. A war, in which the English had the best of it, had been carried on against the Dutch for several years by sea; but once the Dutch
1667
A.D. fleet sailed up the Thames, burned many ships, destroyed Sheerness,¹ and retired. Never



THE DUTCH FLEET IN THE THAMES.

before had an enemy's guns been heard by the people of London; and they have never been heard since.

4. A few years later, a disgraced clergyman, named Titus Oates, spread a report that a plot was laid by the Catholics to kill the King, destroy London, and massacre all the Protestants. 1678

A.D.

This caused so much alarm that many Catholics were put to death, two thousand were cast into prison, and thirty thousand driven out of London and forbidden to come within twenty miles of the city.

5. As Titus Oates was rewarded with £1,200 a-year, other wretches, hoping for 'gain, came forward with 'similar tales, causing the death or imprisonment of many persons of all classes.

6. In 1679 was passed the famous Act known as Habeas Corpus²—an Act which prevents any one from being kept in prison without trial. 1679

A.D.

7. The last great event of the reign was the Rye House Plot, laid with a view of murdering the King and giving the crown to the young Duke of Monmouth, a natural son of Charles. The plan was, to stop the royal coach and shoot the King on his way back from Newmarket³ races. For this purpose a cart was to be overturned in the middle of the road, near the Rye House.⁴ But the whole was found out, and the plotters were put to death. Monmouth fled to Holland. 1683

A.D.

8. Charles the Second died in 1685. Before his death he declared himself to have been a Roman Catholic, though he had said all his life that he was a Protestant. Charles's love of pleasure gained for him the title of "The Merry Monarch." 1685

A.D.

9. The Test Act, requiring all officers of the Crown to declare themselves members of the Church of England, was passed in 1673. The names "Whig" and "Tory" took the place of "Round-head" and "Cavalier."

been heard by, been fired so near to.
gain, reward.
lay, was confined.

liv'ings, churches.
set his heart, made up his mind.
sim'lar, like.

¹ Sheerness.—A sea-port on the island of Sheppey; 40 miles from London.

its opening words, which mean, "Thou mayst have the body."

² Habeas Corpus.—A writ addressed to the keeper of a prisoner, requiring him to produce him for trial at a certain time. It is so called from

³ Newmarket.—Thirteen miles north-east of Cambridge.

⁴ Rye House.—In Hertfordshire, near Hoddesdon; about 16 miles north of London.

37.—JAMES II. (PART I.)

1685 to 1688 A.D.—3 years.

1. The Duke of York, brother of the late King, now came to the throne as James the Second. Being a strict Roman Catholic, he was no favourite with the people; but as he promised to uphold the Protestant religion, none opposed his being King. He, however, went openly to Mass, and soon showed that he could not endure any religion but his own.

2. A plot was therefore set on foot for taking the crown from him, and for giving it to the Duke of Monmouth, his nephew. The Duke of Argyle was to head a rising in Scotland, while Monmouth was to land on the south coast of England. Argyle, however, failed in his attempt, and was taken prisoner and beheaded in Edinburgh before Monmouth landed.

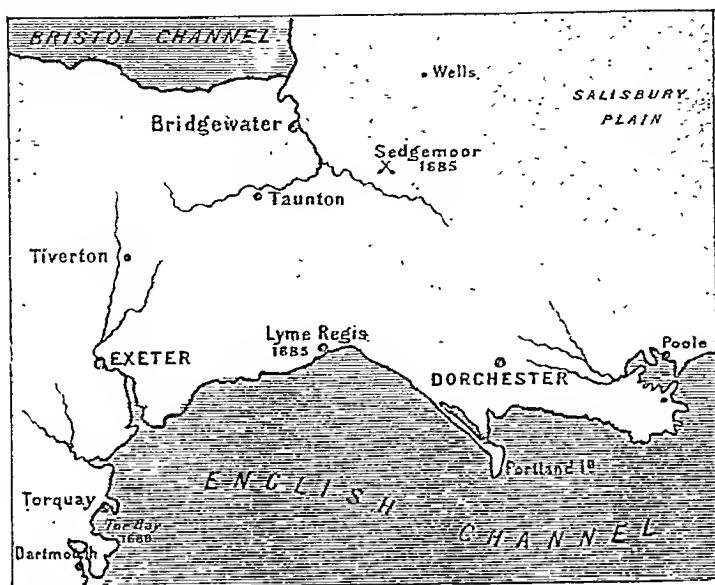
1685
A.D.

3. When Monmouth arrived at Lyme,¹ he had scarcely one hundred followers; but as the common people were in his favour, he was soon at the head of 6,000 men. He was met, however, by the King's forces at Sedgemoor,² and totally defeated. He fled on horseback as far as his horse could carry him. Then changing his clothes for those of a peasant, he wandered about for two days. Thereafter he was hunted with bloodhounds. He was found in a ditch, half-starved, with a few peas in his pocket.

4. When taken before the King he begged for life; but James knew no mercy, and had him put to death on Tower Hill. His followers who were taken prisoners in the battle were cruelly treated. Many were murdered in cold blood ¹⁶⁸⁵
after the battle by Colonel Kirke, who ^{A.D.} hanged them by 'scores on the sign-post of an inn at Taunton.³ Numbers more were condemned to most cruel deaths in the Bloody Assize by Judge Jeffreys, who, for his 'zeal in this 'foul butchery, was made Lord Chancellor.

5. James, feeling now safe on the throne; began to 'unfold his great plan—which was to make England once more a Roman Catholic country. In order to favour the Roman Catholics, he granted freedom of religion to all classes of nonconformists, Romanist and Protestant alike.

6. He also 'thrust Roman Catholics into offices in the University of Oxford; and he drew up a Declaration of Indulgence, which allowed ¹⁶⁸⁸
every one to believe what he chose, and to ^{A.D.} worship as he liked. This he ordered to be read



in all the churches. The London clergy refused to read it; and seven bishops wrote a 'Petition against the Declaration.

7. James, in anger, sent them all to the Tower, where they remained for a week before they were brought to trial. The jury declared them "Not guilty," and shouts of joy rang through the streets of London at the news. When James heard this, his anger 'knew no bounds. He then resolved to bring his people to obedience by force of arms. For this purpose he sent over to Ireland for soldiers, who, being Roman Catholics, would more readily support his cause.

foul, wicked.

knew no bounds, was so great that he could not control it.

mass, a Roman Catholic service.

pe-ti-tion, prayer to the king.

ris'-ing, rebellion.

scores, large numbers together.

thrust, forced people to receive.

un-fold', carry out.

zeal, earnestness.

¹ **Lyme**, or Lyme-Regis.—In Dorsetshire; 22 miles west of Dorechester.

² **Sedgemoor**.—East of Bridgewater in Somersetshire.

³ **Taunton**.—On the Tone in Somersetshire; 12 miles south-west of Bridgewater. Kirke's soldiers were ironically called "Kirke's lambs."

38.—JAMES II. (PART II.)

1. The 'spirit of the English was now 'roused against James beyond all hope of peace. The chief of the nobles and clergy wrote to ¹⁶⁸⁸ William, Prince of Orange, asking him to ^{A.D.} come and take the crown. William had married James's daughter Mary, and was also grandson of Charles the First and nephew of James. He agreed to come, and he landed at Torbay¹ in Devonshire with 15,000 men.

2. Very soon all England declared in his favour. All James's friends forsook him. Even his younger daughter Anne, and her husband, George, Prince of Denmark, were on the side of William. James's first care was now to get himself safely out of the country, and also his wife and son. These he sent to France, and himself fled by night to Sheerness, where a vessel was waiting to take him to them.

3. He was no sooner on board, however, than he was seized, and taken back to London: but a second attempt succeeded; and he was warmly welcomed by the French King, who gave him a home in the Palace of St. Germain's.² There he spent the remaining twelve years of his life, and there he died in 1701.

4. James the Second was a 'reckless and self-willed King. Like James the First and Charles the

First, he believed that he held his crown direct from God, and that he could treat his people as he pleased. By his first wife, Anne Hyde, he had two daughters, Mary and Anne, both of whom sat on the throne; and by his second wife, Mary, he left a son, James, afterwards called the Pretender.

5. After the flight of James, the Parliament declared that he had forfeited the crown, and thanked William for his timely help. The crown was then settled on William and Mary. The Declaration of Right, afterwards included in the Bill of Rights, was drawn up, stating the extent of the King's power and of the liberties of the People. These events are called the Revolution.

drawn up, written out, and agreed to.	set-tled on, given to.
for-feit-ed, lost a right to.	spir-it, temper.
reck-less, heedless of consequences.	time-ly help, help at the time when
roused, awakened to act.	it was needed.

¹ Torbay.—A crescent-shaped bay in Devonshire, on which Torquay stands.	² St. Germain's.—On the Seine; 10 miles west of Paris.
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39.—WILLIAM III. AND MARY II.

WILLIAM, 1689 to 1702 A.D.—13 years.

MARY, 1689 to 1694 A.D.—5½ years.

1. William had not long been seated on the throne when the banished James made an effort to get back the crown. With the help of the French King, he landed in Ireland with a small force. The Irish, being Roman Catholics, were in his favour. When he entered Dublin thousands flocked to his standard, and he was soon at the head of a large army.

2. After failing in the siege of Londonderry,¹ and being defeated at the Boyne,² James fled back to France, leaving his generals to carry on the war as best they could; but William soon overcame them, and returned in triumph to England.

1690
A.D.

3. William's great desire was to 'humble France: and by this the nation was burdened with a debt which it has never since been able to pay. At the close of his reign the National Debt³ amounted to eleven million sterling.



WILLIAM III.

4. The French King, on the other hand, wished to 'replace James on the throne of England, and prepared a great fleet to invade its shores. He was defeated, however, off Cape la Hogue,⁴ and his plans fell to the ground. Many battles were fought on the Continent by William, but at length peace was made.

1692
A.D.

1697
A.D.

5. To prevent quarrels for the crown, Parliament passed the Act of Settlement. It provided that none but Protestants should in 'future sit on the throne of England; and that, if William 'had no children, Anne should succeed him; and that if Anne also died childless, the Prin-

1701
A.D.

cess Sophia of Hanover should be heir to the throne.

6. In the spring of the next year, while William was residing at Hampton Court, he fell from his horse and broke his collar-bone. His health being 'delicate, he did not get over the accident. He died at Kensington.⁵ Mary had died eight years before him.

7. William was an able ruler, but he was not a favourite with the English people. This was 'due partly to his being a 'foreigner, and partly to his severe and silent manners. He left no children.

8. *Important Events.*—In this reign Peter the Great of Russia worked as a ship-carpenter at Deptford.⁶ The massacre in their own homes of the Macdonalds of Glencoe,⁷ who had been somewhat slow to take the oath of allegiance,⁸ 'throws a shade on William's 'fair fame.

del'i-cate, weak.

due, owing.

fair fame, good name.

for'eign-er, native of another coun- (try.

fu'ture, the time to come.

hum'ble, crush; cause to submit.

re-place', put back.

throws a shade, causes some blame.

¹ Londonderry.—On the river Foyle, in the north of Ireland. It was formerly called Derry, but in 1619 a grant of it with some thousands of acres of land was made to various London companies, and it has since been called Londonderry. In the siege, the inhabitants were led by the Rev. George Walker. They were almost starving when the siege was raised by ships entering the Foyle.

² The Boyne.—A river flowing into the Irish Sea, on the east coast of Ireland.

³ National Debt.—Money borrowed by the Government to pay the expense of wars. In 1872 it amounted to nearly 800 million pounds.

⁴ Cape la Hogue.—On the eastern

side of the peninsula of Cotentin, in the north-west of France. It is 80 miles south of the Isle of Wight.

⁵ Kensington.—Then a western suburb of London, now included in it. In the palace there, Queen Victoria was born in 1819.

⁶ Deptford (*Det'ford*), a naval port on the Thames, immediately above Greenwich.

⁷ Glencoe.—In the north-east of Argyshire, south of Loch Leven. The massacre was brought about by Macdonald's enemies, Sir John Dalrymple and the Earl of Breadalbane. Thirty-eight persons were slaughtered, and many more perished in their flight.

⁸ Oath of Allegiance.—Swearing to own the King as their King.

40.--ANNE.

1702 to 1714 A.D.—12 years.

1. Anne was the second daughter of James the Second, and sister of the late Queen Mary. Her husband was Prince George of Denmark; but he took no part in the 'government.

2. During nearly the whole of her reign war was 'waged with France and Spain, and many were the victories gained by the English under the famous Duke of Marlborough. For his services, he was rewarded with an estate in Oxfordshire. A 'splendid house built on it was named Blenheim,¹ from a great battle which he had won. In the same war Gibraltar² was captured from Spain. The place is of great value to the English, as it forms the 'key to the Mediterranean.

1704
A.D.

3. England and Scotland were now really 'united, —Scotland sending sixteen peers and forty-five (she now sends sixty) commoners to Parliament, but keeping her own law-courts and her own Church. After that, the commerce of Scotland began to extend greatly, and the wealth and comfort and happiness of her people to increase.

1707
A.D.

4. The war with France ended in the Treaty of Utrecht,³ by which England gained the Hudson Bay Territory, Newfoundland, and Nova Scotia; and was allowed to keep Gibraltar. The Duke of Marlborough fell into disgrace, for having taken 'bribes from persons who supplied the army with food and clothing. The

1713
A.D.

command of the army was taken from him, and he retired to the Continent, where he remained till the next reign. He then returned to England.

5. Anne died of apoplexy, aged forty-nine. She was the last of the Stewarts who sat on the throne. By her blameless life and her bounty to the Church she won the title of "Good Queen Anne." She had nineteen children, who all died in childhood.

6. The greatest change in the Constitution during the Stewart period was the fixing of a limit to the Royal power, and the increase of the power of the People through the House of Commons. This was done by the Bill of Rights, on the accession of William the Third.

7. *State of the Country.*—The country was still to a great extent untilled, and was chiefly marsh-land and forest. The morals of the people were very bad;—drunkenness was common, and the prisons were always full of criminals. Arts, manufactures, and mining had made but little progress. There were no good roads, and it was difficult to pass from one part of the country to another. When it was made known that the "Flying Coach" would leave Oxford at six in the morning and reach London at seven the same evening, it was thought a dangerous undertaking. A journey from London to York in winter took six days.

ac-ces-sion, coming to the throne.
 blame-less, pure.
 bribes, unlawful payments.
 con-sti-tu-tion, form of government.
 crim-i-nals, those who had broken
 the law.

gov-ern-ment, ruling of England.
 key, means of getting access to.
 marsh-land, bog.
 splen-did, very fine.
 u-nit-ed, made one country.
 waged, carried on.

¹ *Blen/heim*.—The village near which the battle was fought (1704) is on the Danube, 23 miles north-west of Augsburg.

² *Gibral/tar*.—A rock fortress on the south of Spain.

³ *U'trecht*.—In Holland, 21 miles south-east of Amsterdam.

THE HOUSE OF BRUNSWICK.

41.—GEORGE I.

1714 to 1727 A.D.—13 years.

1. George the First was the first King of the House of Brunswick. He was in his fifty-fifth year when he came to the throne. His mother was Sophia of Hanover, grand-daughter of James the First.¹ He had married his cousin, Sophia of Brunswick, but had treated her very cruelly, having shut her up in a castle of Hanover for forty years, and not allowing her to see her own children.

2. His first act was to call on Parliament to punish those lords who had opposed his being King, and had favoured the Pretender, the son of James the Second, whose party took the name of Jacobites.² The Earl of Oxford, who was their leader, was imprisoned for two years. Others of them fled to the Continent, and their estates were seized by the Crown.

3. A rebellion called "the Fifteen" then broke out in Scotland in favour of the Pretender. It was headed by the Earl of Mar, who raised an army of 10,000 men. His forces were de- 1715
feated at Sheriffmuir,³ by the royal troops A.D.
under the Duke of Argyle; and on the same day a rebel army, under the Earl of Derwentwater, was

defeated at Preston.⁴ The Earl of Mar fled with the Pretender to France. Derwentwater and many others were executed. Upwards of one thousand persons were banished to America.

4. Perhaps the strangest event of this reign was the famous "South Sea Bubble." The South
 1720 Sea Company was started to lend money to
 A.D. the Government, and it was to have the sole right of trading to the South Seas. Stories were then told of great fortunes to be made by buying the shares of the Company, and thousands of people rushed to it with all the money they could bring together, in the hope of growing suddenly rich.

5. But the mighty Bubble soon burst. Shares which had cost ten times their value could not be sold at any price, and thousands of families were ruined.

6. During a visit to his subjects in Hanover, the
 1727 King fell ill while travelling in his carriage,
 A.D. and died next day. Though King of England for thirteen years, he could neither write nor speak the English language! This made him unpopular; but he was an able ruler; his manners were simple, and he was a lover of peace.

for-tunes, riches; wealth.
 shares, parts or portions of the profits
 which the Company sold.
 sim-ple, plain.
 sole, only.

the Con-ti-nent, some part of
 Europe.
 their val-ue, as much as they were
 un-pop-u-lar, not pleasing to the
 people.

¹ Grand-daughter of James the First.—Daughter of Elizabeth (daughter of James the First), and wife of the Elector Palatine.

² Jac'obites. — From *Jaco'bus*, the Latin for James.

³ Sheriffmuir. — In the south of Perthshire; 8 miles north-east of Stirling.

⁴ Preston. — In Lancashire; 28 miles north-east of Liverpool. The name means "Priest's town."

42.—GEORGE II. (PART I.)

1727 to 1760 A.D.—33 years.

1. George the Second was the only son of the late King. He had married Caroline of Anspach, a good and learned princess. His eldest son, Frederick, who was now twenty years of age, was called over from Hanover to be made Prince of Wales. During the first twelve years of the reign the country enjoyed peace: and the King's chief minister was Sir Robert Walpole, who, chiefly by means of bribery, continued to hold the office of Premier for twenty-one years.

2. A war broke out with Spain, caused by the Spaniards searching British vessels on the coast of Spanish America. In the course of it, Anson¹ captured a Spanish treasure ship, with gold 1741
A.D.
to the value of £300,000!

3. George tried to replace Maria-Theresa on the throne of Hungary, from which she had been driven by the King of Prussia and the King 1743
A.D.
of France. The English army at the Battle of Dettingen² was led by the King in person. King George, who behaved with great bravery, put the French army to flight, and Maria-Theresa regained her crown.

4. Then came the Jacobite rising known as "The Forty-five." Charles-Edward, son of the Pretender, tried to win the crown of England. Leaving France, he landed in Scotland with seven officers. The people of Edinburgh opened their gates to him, and he lived in Holyrood Palace.

5. Great numbers 'flocked to his standard ; and when Sir John Cope with the 'royal troops drew near Edinburgh, the young Pretender, at the
1745 head of 2,000 Scots, went out to meet him.
A.D.

A battle was fought at Prestonpans ;³ and the Highlanders dashed so 'furiously on the English, first firing their pistols, and then rushing on with their 'broadswords, that they gained a complete victory.

6. If Charles-Edward had at once marched to London, he would have had a chance of gaining the crown ; but he 'trifled away six weeks at Edinburgh with grand balls and parties ; and when he crossed the Border with 5,000 men, the people did not rise in his favour as he had expected.

7. He, however, took Carlisle, marched to Manchester, and then southward as far as to
1746 Derby ; but his Highland chiefs would go no
A.D. further, and he was compelled to return to Scotland. His last battle was fought at Culloden,⁴ where, in less than an hour, he was completely defeated by the English, under the Duke of Cumberland, a son of the King.

8. Charles fled to the hills, and wandered about for five months. A reward of £30,000 was offered for 'his head ; but no one would give him up. In a ragged and wretched condition he took boat, and, setting sail from near the very spot where he at first landed, escaped to France. Many of his friends were put to death, and some were banished. 'His later days were spent at Rome, where, it is said, he became a miserable drunkard, and where he died of apoplexy in 1788.

broad'swords, large swords with broad blades.
flocked to his stand'ard, gathered around his flag.
fu-ri-ous-ly, madly.

his head, as a proof of his death.
roy'al troops, king's soldiers.
search'ing, examining.
treas-ure, money; gold.
tri'fled a-way, wasted.

¹ An'son.—Commodore Anson made a voyage round the world, which occupied the years 1741–1744.

² Det'tingen.—In Bavaria; 18 miles east of Frankfort-on-the-Main.

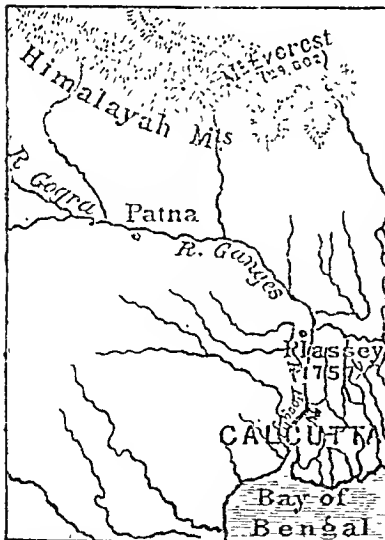
³ Prestonpans'.—On the Firth of Forth; 8½ miles east of Edinburgh.

⁴ Culló'den, or Drummoisie Moor; 8 miles north-east of Inverness. It is now crossed by a railway.

43.—GEORGE II. (PART II.)

1. The war with France had come to an end: but a fresh 'dispute arose (the Seven Years' War), and fighting by land and by sea was carried on between the English and the French in all parts of the world, though chiefly in India and North America.

1756
A.D.



2. The French tried to destroy the English 'settlements in both 'quarters; but in India all their efforts were made 'fruitless by the bravery of Lord Clive, who took away all the

1757
A.D.

French possessions in that part of the world. By the great Battle of Plassey¹ he conquered Bengal, and founded the English Empire in India. Shortly

before that, the native prince of Bengal had 'suffocated one hundred and twenty-three English pris-

oners by shutting them up for a whole night in the Black Hole of Calcutta.

3. In North America, Quebec² was taken
1759 by the English under General Wolfe, and the
A.D. whole of Canada came into the hands of England. Wolfe was killed in battle on the Heights of Abraham.



DEATH OF GENERAL WOLFE.

4. George the Second died suddenly of heart
disease, in the seventy-seventh year of his age.
1760 He was a good king, and his homely man-
A.D. ners and kindly ways made him a favourite
with his people. His eldest son, Frederick, had
died from the stroke of a cricket ball some years be-
fore, leaving nine children, the eldest of whom came
next to the throne as George the Third.

5. *Important Events*.—In this reign Whitefield and the two Wesleys separated from the Established Church of England, and founded the Society of Wesleyan Methodists.—The Porteous riot made a great stir in Scotland: a *smuggler named Wilson was being executed at Edinburgh: the hangman and the soldiers were pelted by the mob, which also made a rush to get Wilson out of their hands: Captain Porteous fired on the crowd, and several were killed; for which he was seized by the enraged mob, and hanged on a dyer's pole (1736).

6. Towards the end of this reign, the famous William Pitt, afterwards Earl of Chatham, became leader of the House of Commons (1756). Other leading statesmen of the time were Charles James Fox and Edmund Burke.

dis-pute', quarrel.

fruit-less, vain; of no use.

quar-ters, parts of the world.

set-tle-ments, places where English people had settled.

smug-gler, man who brought articles into the country without paying tax on them

suf-fo-cāt-ed, smothered; caused to die for want of air.

¹ **Plas'sey**.—In the province of Bengal, on the west bank of the Hoogly, the branch of the Ganges on which Calcutta stands; 90 miles north of Calcutta.

² **Quebec'**.—The oldest city in Canada, then the capital of the French possessions there. It stands on the north bank of the St. Lawrence.

44.—GEORGE III. (PART I.)

1760 to 1820 A.D.—60 years.

1. George the Third, grandson of the late King, came to the throne at the age of twenty-two, and at a time when Britain had become the most powerful nation in the world. During the Seven Years' War, in which England was the ally of Prussia

against Austria, Russia, and France, twenty-five islands, nine cities, and twelve millions of treasure had been taken. Peace was restored by the Treaty of Paris.

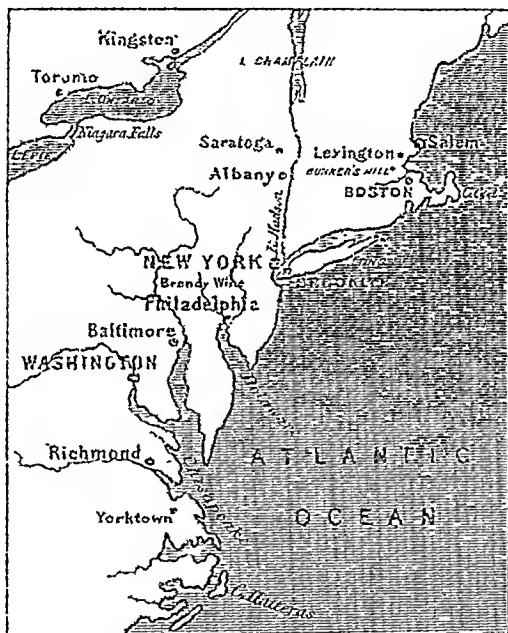
1763

A.D.

2. Then arose the famous quarrel with the American Colonies. The English Government claimed the right of 'taxing them, although they sent no members to the House of Commons; and accordingly it passed the 'Stamp Act. This

1765

A.D.



raised such a storm of anger that the Act had to be withdrawn. But the right to tax was still claimed; and in spite of the loud 'warnings of Pitt, Fox, and Burke, taxes were laid on tea and other articles 'imported into America.

3. The Americans, however, refused to pay them ; and several cargoes of taxed tea, sent from England to Boston,¹ were turned overboard in Boston harbour by some of the inhabitants disguised as Red Indians. England resolved to subdue the colonists by the sword. Large bodies of troops were sent out.

4. The Americans raised an army in their own defence, under the command of George Washington. Then they drew up a Declaration of Independence, and formed a union of thirteen States, under the name of the United States of America. 1776
A.D.

5. A desperate struggle was carried on for seven years, during which many bloody battles were fought. At last Lord Cornwallis, with 7,000 British troops, was hemmed in at Yorktown² by Washington, and was forced to surrender.

6. Another English army, under General Burgoyne, had surrendered at Saratoga³ some time previously ; and then England decided to give up the strife. A treaty was drawn up, by which the independence of the States was acknowledged. A general peace soon followed, embracing not only America, but also France, Spain, and Holland, which, during the struggle with the States, had been united against England. 1783
A.D.

7. The United States of America then set up a Republic, the head of which is a President, who is elected for a term of four years. George Washington was the first President. After his first term of office, he was re-elected for other four years.

8. England, once more at rest from war, was



WASHINGTON.

*prosperous at home, and was following the arts of
 1789 peace; but a fresh 'source of trouble arose
 A.D. when a terrible Revolution broke out in

France, which threw Europe into the deepest gloom. At Paris, a mob, excited by poverty and bad government, rose against King Louis the Sixteenth, whom, with his Queen, they beheaded.

9. France was declared a Republic, the law was set at nought, and a number of fearful events followed during twenty-two years, by which nations were shaken, thrones were overturned, and 'fertile districts were drenched in blood.

dis-guised', made to appear.

fer-tile, fruitful.

im-port-ed, brought.

pros-per-ous, successful.

re-pub-lic, country ruled by the people.

source, cause.

[stamps.

Stamp Act, Act putting a tax on states, provinces; divisions.

tax-ing them, deciding the amount of taxes they should pay.

warn-ings, words of caution.

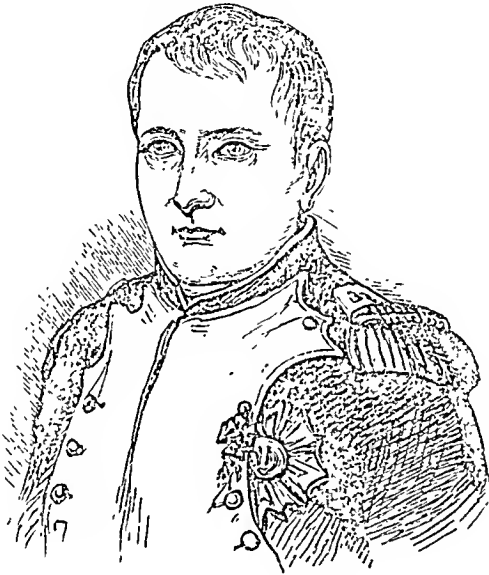
¹ Bos'ton.—Capital of Massachusetts.

² York'town.—In Virginia; 50 miles south-east of Richmond.

³ Sarato'ga.—In New York State; 32 miles north of Albany, and the same distance from Lake Champlain.

45.—GEORGE III. (PART II.)

1. On the death of the King and Queen of France, war was declared against the new Republic by England, Austria, Prussia, and other States. The English took Toulon; but they were driven back by the French under Napoleon Buonaparte, a



NAPOLEON BUONAPARTE.

Corsican¹ officer, who soon drew to himself the attention of all Europe by his skill as a general.

2. He drove the Austrian forces out of Italy, and forced Prussia to sue for peace. Thereafter he sailed across the Mediterranean with a great fleet and army to invade Egypt, intending, if possible, to reach and conquer the Indian Empire.² After taking possession of Malta³ on his way, he

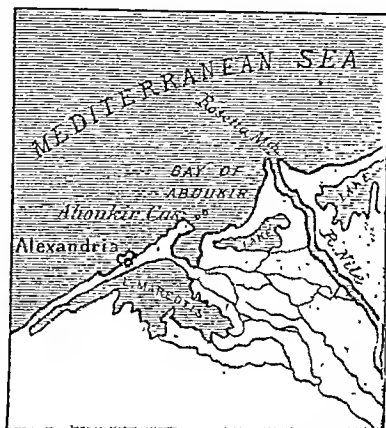
landed at Alexandria,⁴ marched to Cairo,⁵ and gained the Battle of the Pyramids.

3. But his fleet was pursued by Nelson, the great English Admiral, and was utterly defeated in Aboukir Bay,⁶ at the famous Battle of

1798

A.D.

this battle, which was fought in the night, nine French ships were taken, and two burned: the flag-ship was blown up, and the French Admiral, with a



crew of one thousand men, perished. Napoleon then marched to Syria but being defeated there, he left his army, and returned to France. He was made Emperor in 1804.

4. The Irish were greatly displeased with the manner in which they were treated by the English Government. Soon after the French Revolution, they attempted a Rebellion; but it was speedily put down. It was felt, however, to be necessary to bind Ireland more closely to the empire.

1801

A.D.

After much opposition in Ireland, the Union of the Parliaments was effected. Ireland was to send thirty-two lords and one hundred commoners to the Imperial Parliament.

5. Having now several great armies at his command, Napoleon resolved on the conquest of Europe. He at once made plans for invading England, and

collected a number of gun-boats to convey his troops; but he was so closely watched by Nelson that the 'scheme had to be given up.

6. Lord Nelson then attacked the 'combined fleets of France and Spain off Cape Trafalgar,⁷ and totally defeated them; but he lost his life **1805** by a bullet A.D.



LORD NELSON.

fired from the enemy's 'rigging. His death caused the nation much grief; and to this sad loss was added in the following year that of the two greatest statesmen of the

time;—William Pitt the younger (a son of the great Earl of Chatham); and Charles James Fox, his rival in eloquence.

7. Napoleon tried to increase his power by filling the thrones of Europe with his relatives. Having craftily taken the King of Spain prisoner, he claimed the crown for his brother Joseph. At this the Spaniards were so enraged that they rose in arms, and called upon England for help.

8. An army of 10,000 men was sent to Spain, under the command of Sir Arthur Wellesley (afterwards Duke of Wellington); and thus **1808** began the Peninsular War.⁸ A.D. A great number

of battles were fought, in almost all of which the

British troops
1813 were victori-
A.D. ous. The

French armies were step by step driven across the Pyrenees.⁹ The last great battle was fought at Vittoria;¹⁰ after which Wellington entered France, and defeated the French army at Toulouse.¹¹



THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON.

ad-mi-ral, chief commander of the fleet.

bind, unite.

com-bined', united.

flag-ship, ship commanded by the admiral, and which bore his flag.

rig-ging, masts and sails.

scheme, plan.

¹ Cor'sican.—A native of Corsica, an island in the Mediterranean, near the coast of Italy. It belongs to France.

² In'dian Empire.—Portion of India ruled over by England.

³ Mal'ta.—A small island in the Mediterranean, south of Sicily. It belongs to England.

⁴ Alexan'dria.—A famous city of Egypt, on the Mediterranean, near the western mouth of the Nile.

⁵ Cai'ro.—The chief city of Egypt; on the right bank of the Nile, 112 miles south-east of Alexandria. The Pyramids are on the opposite side of the Nile.

⁶ Aboukir' Bay.—East of Alexandria, between Aboukir Castle and the Rosetta mouth of the Nile.

⁷ Trafal'gar.—On the south-west coast of Spain; 25 miles south-east of Cadiz.

⁸ Peninsular War.—So called because it was waged in Spain and Portugal, which form a well-known peninsula, south-west of France.

⁹ Pyr'enees.—Mountains between France and Spain.

¹⁰ Vitto'ria.—Thirty miles south of Bilbao on the Bay of Biscay.

¹¹ Toulouse'.—In the south of France; 139 miles south-east of Bordeaux.

46.—GEORGE III. (PART III.)

1. Meanwhile Napoleon had resolved on the invasion of Russia. He marched into that vast country with an army of nearly half a million men. He intended to take up his 'winter quarters at Moscow;¹ but on arriving at that city his progress was checked by its flames. The inhabitants had set fire to their houses and had fled. 1812
A.D.

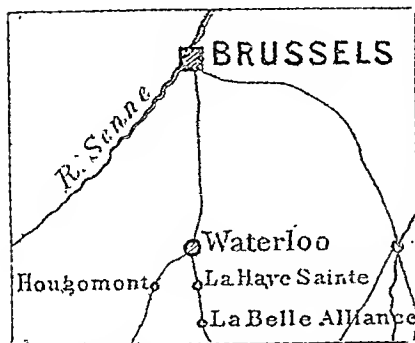
2. He was therefore compelled to 'retreat. His 'provisions were finished; the Russian winter had 'set in; the snow already lay deep on the ground; and during that terrible march homewards almost the whole of his fine army perished from cold and hunger, and from the attacks of the Russians.

3. The nations of Europe now united to crush the power of Napoleon; and an army of Russians, Austrians, and Prussians met and defeated him at the Battle of Leipsic,² entered Paris, and forced him to resign the throne. He retired to the island of Elba;³ and Louis the Eighteenth was made King of France. 1814
A.D.

4. Early in the next year, however, Napoleon left Elba, landed in France, and marched to Paris. There he was soon surrounded by thousands of his old 'comrades, who were ready to lay down their lives in his service. Once more he mounted the throne; but his glory was soon to end. He was met on the field of Waterloo,⁴ near Brussels, by the British and Prussian armies, under the Duke of Wellington, and in a long and bloody battle, 1815
A.D.

fought on Sunday, June 18, 1815, he was completely and finally defeated.

5. Napoleon fled from the field, but afterwards gave himself up to the English, and was sent a



prisoner to the lonely island of St. Helena.⁵ There he lingered six years, and there he died in 1821. Thus ended a long and terrible war, which in twenty-two years had cost hundreds of thousands of human lives,

and had raised the National Debt of England to £860,000,000! It was happily followed by a peace which was almost unbroken for forty years.

6. King George the Third died in the eighty-second year of his age and the sixtieth of his reign
 1820 —the longest and most remarkable in Eng-
 A.D. lish history. His private life was pure, and his manners and dress were homely, so much so that he was called "Farmer George." He had the good of his people at heart, and he was beloved by them in return. During the last ten years of his life he had been now and then out of his mind, and had therefore been unable to fulfil the duties of King; and his eldest son, George, had been made Regent. He now succeeded as George the Fourth.

7. *Important Events.*—In this reign Captain Cook made three voyages round the world. He was killed at Owwhyhee⁶ by a native.—In 1797 a

mutiny broke out in the British Navy—the seamen demanding more pay. At the Spithead⁷ they were easily pacified; but at the Nore⁸ they seized the ships, and did not return to their duty till ‘the ring-leaders were hanged.

8. *Notes of Progress.*—In this reign, gas was first used in the streets of London, and the first steam-vessel was launched on the Clyde. The steam-engine was greatly improved by James Watt; the “spinning-jenny” was invented by James Hargreaves; a spinning-machine called the “mule,” by Samuel Crompton; and the power-loom, by Dr. Cartwright.

comrades, followers.
improved, made better.
invented, first made; found out.
private, home.
provisions, food.
re-treat, go back.

set in, begun.
the ring-leaders, those most to blame; head men.
winter quarters, place for spending the winter, when no fighting could be done.

¹ Moscow.—The old capital of Russia, near the middle of the country.

² Leip’sic.—In Saxony; 60 miles north-west of Dresden.

³ Elba.—In the Mediterranean, off the coast of Italy, between Corsica and Tuscany.

⁴ Waterloo.—Ten miles south of Brussels.

⁵ St. Hele’na.—An island in the

South Atlantic; 1,200 miles from the coast of Africa.

⁶ Owhy’hee, or Hawai’i, the largest and southernmost of the Sandwich Islands, in the South Pacific.

⁷ The Spithead.—A roadstead between Portsmouth Island and the Isle of Wight.

⁸ The Nore.—A roadstead in the estuary of the Thames, opposite Sheerness.

47.—GEORGE IV.

1820 to 1830 A.D.—10 years.

1. Soon after the Prince Regent had become King, a plot was formed to murder the Prime Minister and the other members of the Government, to break open the prisons, and to set London on fire; but the plot was discovered, and the ringleaders were executed.

2. George the Fourth had for twenty-five years been married to Caroline of Brunswick; but he had used her very cruelly, and she had long been forced to live away from him. On his coming to the throne, however, she returned to England to claim her position as Queen.

3. On her arrival, 'grave charges of misconduct were brought against her; but these 'had to be given up. Yet, when the King was crowned in Westminster Abbey, she was not admitted, though she actually went to the door. A few days afterwards she died of a broken heart. Her coffin bore, by her own order, the words, "Here lies Caroline of Brunswick, the 'injured Queen of England."

4. Early in this reign, the Greeks, who had long been 'subject to the Turks, rose against them, and showed so much bravery, that Britain, France, and Russia agreed to help them to win back their freedom. A fleet was sent to Greece, which in a few hours destroyed the whole Turkish navy in the harbour of Navarino.¹ Greece was then formed into a kingdom.

5. George the Fourth died at the age of sixty-eight. He is chiefly famous for his 'polished
1830 manners and his fondness for dress. He used
A.D. to be called "the first gentleman in Europe;" but he lived a wicked life, and he was a weak and useless King. Having no son, he was succeeded by his brother William, Duke of Clarence.

6. *Important Events.*—During this reign Captains Ross and Parry sailed to the 'Arctic Seas in search of a 'passage to the east coast of Asia. The Test and

Corporation Acts² were 'repealed. The Catholic Emancipation Act, allowing Roman Catholics to sit in Parliament, was passed in 1829.

Arc'tic, northern: polar.	; pas'sage, water-way.
grave, serious.	pol'ished, refined.
had to be given up, could not be proved.	re-pealed', no longer regarded as laws; done away with.
in-jured, wronged; badly treated.	sub'ject to, ruled over by

¹ Navari'no.—A sea-port of Greece. | the communion according to the rites near the south-western point of Morea. | of the English Church. The Corpora-

² Test and Corporation Acts.— | tion Act, passed in 1661, required the The Test Act, passed in 1673, required | same of all officers in boroughs. Both all civil and military officers to receive | Acts were results of the Restoration.

48.—WILLIAM IV.

1830 to 1837 A.D.—7 years.

1. William the Fourth was son of George the Third and brother of the late King. He married Adelaide of Saxe-Meiningen. The two chief events of his reign were the 'passing of the Reform Bill, and the setting free of all slaves in the English colonies.

2. The object of the Reform Bill was to make the House of Commons better 'represent the people. The 'right to 'vote at 'elections was given to many who had not had the right before. Towns that had lately grown 'populous received the right of sending members to Parliament; while members were taken away from small towns which had lost their importance. While this 'measure was being hotly 'disputed in Parliament, great riots took place at Bristol, Nottingham, and other large towns.

1832
A.D.

3. In 1833 all the slaves in the British colonies were set free. Twenty million sterling was granted by the nation to pay the slave-owners. Eight hundred thousand slaves thus became free men. William Wilberforce, who, forty-six years before, had proposed this measure, and had laboured hard since that time to bring it to pass, just lived long enough to see the desire of his heart fulfilled. He died in 1833.

4. William the Fourth died in the seventy-second year of his age, leaving no children. By his kindness of heart, and his constant regard for the good of his people, he gained the noble title of "Father of his Country."

5. The first railway was opened, between Manchester and Liverpool, in 1825, when Mr. Huskisson, a member of the Government, was knocked down by an engine and was killed.

dis-pūt-ed, discussed.

e-lec-tions, choosing of members of Parliament.

ful-filled', carried out.

meas-ure, Reform Bill.

pass-ing, making law.

pop-u-lous, to contain more people.

rep-re-sent', show the minds of.

right, liberty; power.

vote, choose.

49.—VICTORIA. (PART I.)

1837 A.D.

1. Queen Victoria ascended the throne June 20. 1837, in the nineteenth year of her age. Her Majesty is the daughter of the late Duke of Kent, who was a brother of William the Fourth and fourth son of George the Third. She was born at Kensington Palace,¹ May 24, 1819.

2. Her Majesty married her cousin, Albert of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha;² and their family consisted of four sons, Albert-Edward (Prince of Wales), Alfred, Arthur, and Leopold; and five daughters, Victoria, Alice, Helena, Louise, and Beatrice. At the Queen's accession Hanover became a separate kingdom, as there is a law in that country against any woman wearing the crown; and Ernest, Duke of Cumberland, fifth son of George the Third, became its King.

3. Early in the reign a dispute arose with China about the trade in opium, a 'drug which the Chinese love to smoke and chew. The Em- 1840
peror, wishing to put an end to these bad A.D. habits, ordered that no opium should be allowed to enter China, and destroyed many 'cargoes which British merchants had tried to 'smuggle into Chinese ports from India, where it is grown. He also threw several British subjects into prison.

4. War was declared. British troops captured several large towns, and forced the Chinese to open five ports to British trade, to pay a 1842
large sum of money, and to give up the A.D. island of Hong-Kong,³ which has ever since belonged to England.

5. One of the most important events of the reign was the Repeal of the Corn Laws. High 'duties had been charged on all corn brought into the country from abroad. This made bread dear; and Richard Cobden proposed that the duties 1846
should be taken off. A.D. The farmers went against this with all their might, as they wished to get a high price for their corn. They called loudly

for "Protection;" but by the 'eloquent speeches of Mr. Cobden and Sir Robert Peel, the cause of "Free Trade" triumphed, and the duty on wheat was very soon done away with.

6. The year 1848 was a very 'stormy one throughout Europe. A new Revolution took place in
 1848 France. King Louis Philippe escaped to Eng-
 A.D. land, and France was once more a Republic. Louis Napoleon⁴ was chosen President, and afterwards Emperor—a title which he kept till 1870.

7. The peaceful progress of England was shown
 1851 by the Great Exhibition which was held in a
 A.D. Crystal Palace in Hyde Park. The grand 'idea of exhibitions of the works of different nations was first started by Albert, the Prince Consort.

car'-goes, ship-loads.
 drug, article used as medicine.
 du'-ties, taxes.
 el'o-quent, well-spoken.
 i-de-a, thought.

pro-tec'-tion, the taxing of imported corn to keep up the price of home-grown corn.
 smug'-gle, carry secretly.
 storm-y, quarrelsome.

¹ Kensington Palace.—In Kensington Park, in the west of London.

² Saxe-Co'burg-Gotha.—One of the Saxon States of Germany.

³ Hong-Kong'.—An island east of the entrance to the Canton river. It is now a British colony. It is 8 miles long, and from 2 to 6 broad.

⁴ Louis Napoleon.—A nephew of the great Napoleon. He was defeated and taken prisoner by the Prussians in 1870. The French Empire was then abolished, and a Republic was set up. Napoleon was soon released by the Prussians, and went to England, where he died in 1873.

50.—VICTORIA. (PART II.)

1. The long peace was at length broken when war was declared by England and France against Russia, in defence of the Sultan of Turkey, whose provinces north of the Danube had been seized by

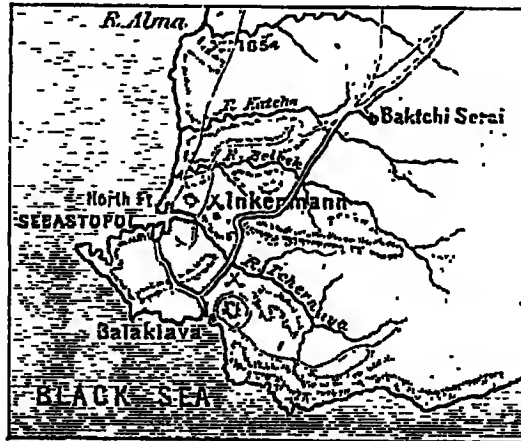
a Russian army. The Turks had, by a number of gallant efforts, driven the Russians back, when 5,000 Turks were massacred by the Russian fleet at Sinope.¹

2. The English and French fleets then sailed to the Black Sea, and their armies invaded the Crimea.² A battle was fought on the banks of the little river Alma,³ in which the 'Allies gained a great victory over the Russians. They then laid siege to Sebastopol, the great Russian stronghold on the Black Sea.

3. During the siege the Russians made a fierce attack on the Allies in the valley of Bala-klava,⁴ but without success. In this battle 1854
A.D. the famous charge of the Light Brigade took place. By a mistaken order, six hundred horsemen charged a much larger body of the enemy, to save a few guns from being taken. Barely two hundred returned.

4. Very shortly followed the bloody Battle of Inkermann,⁴ which lasted twelve hours, and in which 14,000 English and French defeated 50,000 Russians.

5. The next battle was fought in the valley of the Tchernaya,⁵ in the summer of 1855. The Sardinians, who



had joined the Allies with an army of 15,000 men,

were attacked by the Russians in great force; but, being helped by the French, they drove them back with much slaughter.

6. Meanwhile the siege of Sebastopol had been slowly but surely carried on; and now the final attack began. Day after day shot and shell were poured into the town from the guns of the allied armies, setting fire to buildings, blowing up powder-magazines, and killing the enemy to the number of a thousand a-day.

1855
A.D.

7. At length one night, under cover of the darkness, the Russian general drew off his troops in fine order, set the town on fire, broke down the bridge across the river, and sank all the vessels of war in the harbour. The allied armies entered the town next day, but found little else than a heap of blackened ruins.

8. It is said that during this terrible siege, which lasted nearly a year, there fell, of Russians, English, French, and Sardinians, no fewer than 100,000 men. Russia now sought peace; and a treaty was signed at Paris.

1856
A.D.

9. These troubles were hardly over, when the British rule in India was almost overturned by a general Mutiny, which broke out in Bengal among the Sepoys, or native soldiers in England's Indian army. These, at a given signal, rose in revolt, and put to death their English officers. They took possession of Delhi⁶ and other places; and at Cawnpore⁷ they savagely murdered great numbers of English gentlemen, ladies, and children, after treating them in a most brutal manner.

1857
A.D.

10. After a long and desperate struggle, the rebels were subdued by the brave and good Sir Henry Havelock, and by Sir Colin Campbell, afterwards Lord Clyde. Havelock sank under the fatigue of the struggle. The government of India has since been brought directly under the Crown; and in 1876 Queen Victoria was proclaimed Empress of India.

al-lies', English, French, and Turks.
fi'-nal, closing; last.
force, numbers.
gal-lant, brave.

mu'-ti-ny, rising of soldiers or sailors
against their officers.
strong'-hold, fortified place.
treat-y, agreement.

¹ Sin'ope.—A sea-port of the Black Sea, on the coast of Asiatic Turkey.

² Crime'a.—A peninsula in the south of Russia, stretching into the Black Sea.

³ Al'ma.—A river of the Crimea, 17 miles north of Sebastopol.

⁴ Balaklā'va.—A sea-port 6 miles south of Sebastopol, from which Inkermann is about the same distance eastward.

⁵ Tchernay'a.—The river which flows into Sebastopol harbour.

⁶ Del'hi.—On the Jumna, a tributary of the Ganges; 250 miles north-west of Lucknow. It was long the Moham-medan capital of India, and the seat of the Great Moguls, the Tartar Emperors, whose dynasty began in 1525.

⁷ Cawnpore'.—A city on the Ganges; 50 miles south-west of Lucknow, and 628 from Calcutta.

51.—VICTORIA. (PART III.)

1. The year 1861 was a year of mourning and sadness on account of the death of the Prince Consort, "Albert the Good." Never ¹⁸⁶¹ in the history of the nation had the death ^{A.D.} of a prince caused such deep and 'universal grief.

2. An 'extension of the franchise, or right of 'voting for members of Parliament, having become necessary, a new Reform Bill was passed. It greatly increased the number of voters; gave mem-bers to certain towns, the 'population of ¹⁸⁶⁷ which had 'recently increased; and took mem-bers from others, the population of which had gone ^{A.D.}

down. Seven members were added to the number from Scotland.

3. About the same time, a British army

was sent from

1868 A.D. India to Abyssinia,¹ to set

free a number of English captives whom Theodore, King of that country, had refused to give up. The town of Magdala² was

'stormed and taken,

and the prisoners were released. The King shot himself.

4. Six years later, another little African war had to be begun. The Ashantees, near the west

1874 A.D. coast, made it difficult for other tribes there to carry on trade with England. A small army

was sent to Ashantee, under Sir Garnet Wolseley. The natives were defeated, their capital was burned to the ground, and their King was glad to make peace and to promise all that the English wanted.

5. A new war broke out between Russia and Turkey in 1877, in which Turkey was beaten.

1877 A.D. The other powers did not step in this time till the war was quite over. Then they met at Berlin and made a treaty of peace. At the same time England made a 'private treaty with Turkey,



PRINCE ALBERT.

promising to defend her provinces in Asia against attacks from Russia.

6. This was hardly done when an Afghan war broke out. The Indian Government was alarmed because the ruler of Afghanistan seemed to favour the Russians more than he favoured the English. An English army marched into the country from India and took Cabul, the capital. After 1878
A.D. peace had been made, the English 'Envoy, Sir Louis Cavagnari, was cruelly murdered, and the war broke out again. But the English people did not like the war. A change of 'Ministry took place, and the war was as soon as possible brought to an end.

7. About the same time a war broke out in South Africa, between the English and the Zulus, whose King refused to disarm his soldiers. 1878
A.D. The English suffered terribly in one battle; but in the end they gained, and the Zulu King was taken prisoner. A year or two later the colonists of the Transvaal,³ in South Africa, 1880
A.D. revolted and set up a Free State. This led to another war.

en-voy, person who represented the	pri-vate, secret.
ex-ten-sion, enlargement. [Queen.	re-cent-ly, lately.
min-is-try, the persons at the head	stormed, fired into.
of affairs; the Government.	u-ni-ver-sal, generally felt.
pop-u-la-tion, people.	vot-ing, choosing.

¹ Abyssin'ia.—A country on the east coast of Africa, south of Nubia and west of the Red Sea.

² Magda'la.—A rocky fortress, nearly 300 miles from the Red Sea.

³ Transvaal'.—A State north of the river Vaal, founded by Dutch Boers (farmers) in 1848. Its independence was declared in 1852. It was annexed to the British possessions in 1877.

52.—VICTORIA. (PART IV.)

1. Ireland has needed a great deal of attention during the present reign. In 1845 the potato disease caused great distress. Partly by death and partly by 'emigration to America, the population was lessened by nearly two million.

2. The Irish have always complained of being badly governed by England. The favourite 'remedy with the Irish people for the ills of Ireland has been the "Repeal" of the Union of 1801. A great outcry for Repeal—that is, for a separate
 1843 Irish Parliament—was headed by Daniel
 A.D. O'Connell;¹ but he was tried for 'sedition, and with that the outcry 'ceased for a time.

3. Some years later it was renewed, when the "Fenian" plot for the separation of Ireland
 1865 from England was formed. The *Habeas*
 A.D. *Corpus* Act was 'suspended—that is to say, it was made lawful to imprison men without trial—and many of the leading Fenians were banished.

4. The Irish had two special causes of complaint: the Established Church was the Protestant Church of England, while most of the Irish people are Roman Catholics: the laws for the letting
 1869 of farms were unjust to the farmers. In
 1870
 A.D. 1869 the Irish Church was 'disestablished; in 1870 the Land law was amended so as to give better 'terms to tenants. For a time, Ireland was quiet.

5. By-and-by, however, the demand for Repeal was raised again. The Irish Members of Parliament

asked for "Home Rule." Bad harvests in 1878 and 1879 caused much suffering and discontent among the small farmers in the west and the south. The Home Rulers put themselves at the head of the discontent, and demanded a complete 1880
A.D.
change in the land laws. They formed a Land League, which advised the farmers not to pay rents. Landlords and their agents were shot; the cattle and goods of those who obeyed the law were destroyed. The law was openly defied, and the country was on the brink of civil war.

6. In Parliament the session of 1881 was almost wholly given up to Ireland and Irish affairs. Acts were passed for the protection of life and the preservation of peace. A new Land Act was also passed, granting to tenants still more favourable terms than the Act of 1870. Nevertheless, the outrages continued, and it was found 1881
A.D.
necessary to put down the Land League as an illegal society.

7. In May 1882, when it appeared that the leaders of the Land League were inclined to yield to the Government, Lord Frederick Cavendish, the newly-appointed Chief Secretary for Ireland, and Mr. Burke, the Under-Secretary, were brutally murdered in Phoenix Park, Dublin, in daylight. The murderers were afterwards proved to have been members of a secret society which planned murders in all parts of Ireland.

8. *Notes of Progress.*—The Penny Postage was adopted, chiefly through the efforts of Rowland Hill, in 1840. A Bill for the admission of Jews into

Parliament was passed in 1858, when Baron Rothschild took his seat as Member for London. In 1866, the first Telegraph Cable between Europe and America was successfully laid under the sea. In 1870, the Education Act, establishing School Boards, was passed for England and Wales. In 1872, the Ballot Act, allowing secret voting at parliamentary elections, became law.

ceased, stopped.	rem-e-dy, cure.
dis-e-stab-lished, no longer the State Church.	se-di-tion, trying to raise a rebellion.
em-i-gra-tion, removing to another country.	sus-pend-ed, set aside for a time.
	terms, agreements for holding farms.

¹ O'Connell.—He was sentenced to two years' imprisonment; but the House of Lords prevented the sentence from being carried out. From this time	O'Connell's power over his countrymen declined. He died at Genoa in 1847.
	² Fe'nian.—From the name of an old Celtic hero, Fion, or Finn.

53.—VICTORIA. (PART V.)

1. The disorderly state of Egypt had long given trouble to the European powers. Egypt is governed by a viceroy called the Khedive,¹ who is subject to the Sultan of Turkey. In 1879, two Controllers were appointed by France and Great Britain to advise the Khedive.

2. In 1882, a military revolt, headed by Arabi Pasha, overthrew the government of the Khedive. The British Government resolved to
1882 A.D. interfere. A British fleet, under Admiral Seymour, 'bombarded the forts of Alexandria; and the rebels, in revenge, set fire to the town and murdered many foreigners.

3. A British army, under Sir Garnet Wolseley,

marched into Egypt from the Suez Canal, and defeated Arabi at Tel-el-Kebir. A rapid march to Cairo finished the war. Arabi surrendered, and was banished to Ceylon, and the Khedive was restored. For their services, Sir Garnet Wolseley and Admiral Seymour were rewarded with peerages. At this time the French ceased to have any share in the government of Egypt.

4. In the following year, the native tribes in the Soudan, south of Egypt, revolted under a fanatical chief who called himself "the Mahdi," their object being to drive the Egyptian garrisons out of certain fortresses held by them there. A British army marched inland from Suakim, on the Red Sea, and relieved the garrisons in Tokar and other places. 1883
A.D.

5. The chief place threatened by the Mahdi was Khartoum, at the junction of the Blue with the White Nile. To prevent bloodshed, the British Government sent General Charles Gordon ("Chinese Gordon"²) to Khartoum to arrange for the withdrawal of the Egyptian soldiers. 1884
A.D.

6. By-and-by it became known that Gordon's peaceful mission had failed, and that he was besieged in Khartoum by the Mahdi's followers. Lord Wolseley led an army of ten thousand men across the desert to relieve him. Brilliant victories were won at Abu-Klea and Metammeh. Then General Wilson steamed up the Nile to Khartoum, only to find that the city had fallen, and that Gordon had been killed. 1885
A.D.

7. In 1884, an Act was passed which lowered

the franchise in counties so as to make it the same as in boroughs. This added two million voters to the voting-rolls. It was followed by a Redistribution of Seats Act, which divided large constituencies into districts returning, as a rule, one member each. It also gave Scotland 12 additional members, and increased the total number in the House of Commons from 658 to 670 (June).

8. Before that Act was passed, Mr. Gladstone was defeated, and resigned, and the Marquis of Salisbury became Prime Minister; but he held office for only a few months. The General Election under the new franchise gave the Liberals and the Irish Nationalists combined a majority, and Mr. Gladstone returned to power (February), and very soon made it known that he intended to grant Home Rule, or self-government, to Ireland. On that account Lord Hartington and Mr. Goschen had refused to join the new Ministry.

9. The Home Rule Bill broke up the Liberal party. Lord Hartington and Mr. Goschen were joined by Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, Mr. John Bright, and other leading Liberals, and they formed themselves into the "Liberal Unionist" party.

10. The Bill was thrown out on the second reading by a majority of 30. Mr. Gladstone then dissolved Parliament; but he was beaten at the polls, and at once resigned (July).

11. Lord Salisbury again became Prime Minister, with the promise of the support of the Liberal Unionists; and in January 1887 Mr. Goschen joined

the Ministry as Chancellor of the Exchequer. A new Crimes Act for Ireland was passed, which was firmly put in force by Mr. A. J. Balfour as Chief Secretary, and its effects were seen in a smaller number of outrages. 1887 A.D.

12. On the 21st of June, the Jubilee of the accession of Her Majesty Queen Victoria was cele-



QUEEN VICTORIA.

brated with the greatest rejoicings in all parts of the British Empire. A great thanksgiving service was held in Westminster Abbey, 1887 A.D. which was attended by the Queen and the royal family, by Indian and European princes, and by all ranks and

classes in the United Kingdom.

13. A Local Government Act for England and Wales was the chief business of the session of 1888. The Act gave to County Councils the management of county business. A similar Act for Scotland was passed in the following year, and under it a large measure of free education was granted to that country. By later measures education has been made practically free, not only in Scotland, but also in England and Wales and in Ireland (1891, 1892). 1888 A.D. 1889 A.D.

14. In 1892, Prince Albert Victor, Duke of Clarence and Avondale, eldest son of the Prince of Wales, died. In July of that year a General Election took place, which gave the Liberals and the Irish Nationalists together a majority of 40.

1892 A.D. Mr. Gladstone then became Prime Minister for the fourth time, in the eighty-third year of his age. He brought in the Home Rule Bill again in March 1893. The House of Commons passed the Bill, but it was rejected by the House of Lords.

15. Early in 1894 Mr. Gladstone withdrew from public life, and the Earl of Rosebery succeeded him as Prime Minister, Sir William Harcourt being leader of the House of Commons. The Rosebery Ministry passed Parish Councils Acts for England and Scotland, a new Factory Act, and other measures; but its majority gradually declined, and in June 1895 it was defeated in the House of Commons on a War Office vote. Lord Rosebery resigned; and a new Ministry was formed by Lord Salisbury, which included the Duke of Devonshire, Mr. Chamberlain, and other Liberal Unionists. The Parliament was immediately dissolved.

ac-cen'sion, coming to the throne.
bom-bard-ed, attacked with cannon.
con-stit'u-en-cies, bodies of voters.
fan-at-i-cal, wildly religious.

fran'chise, right to vote.
gar-ri-son, soldiers holding a fortress.
in-ter-fere', step in; take part in the quarrel.

¹ Khed'ive.—A Persian title, meaning prince or sovereign. The office is hereditary—that is to say, it descends from father to son.

² Chinese Gordon.—So called be-

cause of his remarkable success in putting down a rebellion in China (1903-04).

³ Jubilee.—Fiftieth year. Queen Victoria began to reign June 21, 1837

SOVEREIGNS OF ENGLAND.

BEFORE THE NORMAN CONQUEST.

EGBERT.....	A.D. 827- 836
ALFRED THE GREAT.....	871- 901
ÆTHELSTAN.....	925- 940
ÆTHELRED.....	979-1016
CANUTE (Dane).....	1016-1035
EDWARD THE CONFESSOR.....	1042-1066
HAROLD II.....	1066

SINCE THE NORMAN CONQUEST.

Feudal Monarchy.

I.—NORMAN LINE.

1066-1154 A.D.

1. WILLIAM I. (Duke of Normandy).....began A.D. 1066
 2. WILLIAM II. (son).....1087
 3. HENRY I. (brother).....1100
 4. STEPHEN (nephew).....1135-1154
-

II.—PLANTAGENET LINE—HOUSE OF ANJOU.

1154-1399 A.D.

1. HENRY II. (grandson of Henry I.).....began A.D. 1154
2. RICHARD I. (son).....1189
3. JOHN (brother).....1190

4. HENRY III. (son)	A.D. 1216
5. EDWARD I. (son).....	1272
6. EDWARD II. (son).. ..	1307
7. EDWARD III. (son).....	1327
8. RICHARD II. (grandson).....	1377-1399

III.—PLANTAGENET LINE—HOUSE OF LANCASTER.

1399 to 1461 A.D.

1. HENRY IV. (son of John of Gaunt)	began A.D. 1399
2. HENRY V. (son).....	1413
3. HENRY VI. (son).....	1422-1461

IV.—PLANTAGENET LINE—HOUSE OF YORK.

1461 to 1485 A.D.

1. EDWARD IV. (son of Richard of York)	began A.D. 1461
2. EDWARD V. (son).....	1483
3. RICHARD III. (uncle)	1483-1485

Absolute Monarchy.

V.—HOUSE OF TUDOR.

1485 to 1603 A.D.

1. HENRY VII. (descended from John of Gaunt)	began A.D. 1485
2. HENRY VIII. (son).....	1509
3. EDWARD VI. (son).....	1547
4. MARY I. (half-sister)	1553
5. ELIZABETH (half-sister)	1558-1603

VI.—HOUSE OF STEWART.

1603-1714 A.D.

1. JAMES I. (son of Mary Queen of Scots)	began A.D. 1603
2. CHARLES I. (son).....	1625
COMMONWEALTH, during which Cromwell }	began 1649
ruled as Protector for five years..... }	ended 1660
3. CHARLES II. (son of Charles I.).....	1660
4. JAMES II. (brother).....	1685-1688

Limited Monarchy.

5. WILLIAM III. (nephew), MARY II. (daughter).... .began A.D. 1689
Death of MARY, WILLIAM left sole Ruler.... . 1691
6. ANNE (daughter of James II.)..... 1702-1714

VII.—HOUSE OF BRUNSWICK

From 1714 A.D.

1. GEORGE I. (great-grandson of James I.)..... . began A.D. 1714
2. GEORGE II. (son)..... 1727
3. GEORGE III. (grandson)..... 1760
4. REGENCY of the Prince of Wales.. .. 1811
5. GEORGE IV. (son)..... 1820
6. WILLIAM IV. (brother)..... 1830
7. VICTORIA (niece)..... 1837

CHIEF DATES.

ROMAN TIMES.

Landing of Julius Caesar.....	B.C.	55
Invasion under Claudius.....	A.D.	43
Agricola governor.....		78-85
Departure of the Romans.....		410

OLD ENGLISH TIMES.

The English Settlement.....		449
Landing of Augustine.....		597
Egbert crowned.....		827
Battle of Hastings, or the Norman Conquest.....		1066

NORMAN LINE.

The Feudal System introduced (William I.).....		1072
Domesday Book compiled (William I.).....		1086
Henry I. marries Edith-Matilda.....		1100

PLANTAGENET LINE—HOUSE OF ANJOU.

Ireland reduced (Henry II.).....		1173
Magna Carta (John).....		1215
House of Commons founded (Henry III.).....		1265
Wales conquered (Edward I.).....		1283
Battle of Bannockburn (Edward II.).....		1314
Battle of Crecy (Edward III.).....		1346
Calais taken (Edward III.).....		1347
Battle of Poitiers (Edward III.).....		1356
Tyler's Rebellion (Richard II.).....		1381

PLANTAGENET LINE—HOUSE OF LANCASTER.

Battle of Agincourt (Henry V.).....	A.D. 1415
English possessions in France lost, except Calais (Henry VI.)....	1451
War of the Roses commenced (Henry VI.).....	1455

PLANTAGENET LINE—HOUSE OF YORK.

Battle of Tewkesbury (Edward IV.).....	1471
Printing brought into England by Caxton.....	1474
Battle of Bosworth Field (Richard III.).....	1485

HOUSE OF TUDOR.

James IV. of Scotland marries Margaret Tudor (Henry VII.)...	1502
Battle of Flodden Field (Henry VIII.).....	1513
Papal Supremacy abolished in England (Henry VIII.).....	1534
Calais lost (Mary I.)	1558
Execution of Mary Queen of Scots (Elizabeth).....	1587
Spanish Armada defeated (Elizabeth)	1588

HOUSE OF STEWART.

Gunpowder Plot (James I.).....	1605
Petition of Right (Charles I.).....	1628
Long Parliament (Charles I.).....	1640
Civil War commenced—Battle of Edgehill (Charles I.).....	1642
Charles I. beheaded	1649
Cromwell Protector (Commonwealth).....	1653
The Restoration (Charles II.).....	1660
Plague in London (Charles II.).....	1665
Fire of London (Charles II.).....	1666
Habeas Corpus Act (Charles II.).....	1679
The Revolution (James II.).....	1688
Bill of Rights (William and Mary).....	1689
Act of Settlement (William III.).....	1701
Union of English and Scottish Parliaments (Anne).....	1707

HOUSE OF BRUNSWICK.

Jacobite Rebellion in Scotland (George I.).....	1715
Charles-Edward's Rebellion in Scotland (George II.).....	1745

British Indian Empire founded (George II.).....D.	1757
Conquest of Canada (George II.).....	1759
American Independence acknowledged (George III.).....	1783
French Revolution (George III.).....	1789
Union of English and Irish Parliaments (George III.).....	1801
Battle of Waterloo (George III.).....	1815
Reform Act (William IV.).....	1832
Slavery abolished in British Colonies (William IV.).....	1833
Penny Postage (Victoria).....	1840
Repeal of the Corn Laws (Victoria).....	1846
Crimean War (Victoria).....	1854
Indian Mutiny (Victoria).....	1857
Jews admitted to Parliament (Victoria).....	1858
New Reform Act (Victoria).....	1867
Abyssinian War (Victoria).....	1868
Irish Church disestablished (Victoria).....	1869
Irish Land Act (Victoria).....	1870
Education Act (Victoria).....	1870
Ballot Act (Victoria).....	1872
Ashantee War (Victoria).....	1874
Afghan War (Victoria).....	1878
Zulu War (Victoria).....	1878
Revolt of the Transvaal (Victoria).....	1880
Irish Protection of Life and Property Act (Victoria).....	1881
Irish Peace Preservation Act (Victoria).....	1881
New Irish Land Act (Victoria).....	1881
Irish Prevention of Crimes Act (Victoria).....	1882
War in Egypt (Victoria).....	1882
War in Eastern Soudan (Victoria).....	1884
Third Reform Act (Victoria).....	1884
Burmah annexed (Victoria).....	1886
Queen Victoria's Jubilee (Victoria).....	1887
Permanent Irish Crimes Act (Victoria).....	1887
Third Irish Land Act (Victoria).....	1887
Local Government Act—England and Wales (Victoria).....	1888
The Parnell Commission (Victoria).....	1888
The Ashbourne Irish Holdings Act (Victoria).....	1888
Local Government Act—Scotland (Victoria).....	1889
Relief of Emin Pasha by Stanley (Victoria).....	1889
Scottish Universities Act (Victoria).....	1889
Protectorate of Zanzibar acquired (Victoria).....	1890
Heligoland ceded to Germany (Victoria).....	1890
Assisted Education Act for England and Wales (Victoria).....	1891
Free Education Act for Ireland (Victoria).....	1892
Death of Prince Albert Victor (Victoria).....	1892

Wreck of the "Victoria" ironclad (Victoria).....A.D.	1893
Marriage of the Duke of York (Victoria)	1893
English Parish Councils Act (Victoria)	1893
Scottish Parish Councils Act (Victoria).....	1894
Annexation of Pondoland (Victoria)	1894
Railway Servants' Hours Act (Victoria).....	1894
New Factory Act (Victoria)	1895
Fatal Accidents Inquiry (Scotland) Act (Victoria).....	1895
Second Ashantee Expedition (Victoria).....	1895
Annexation of Chitral—North India (Victoria).....	1895
Egyptian Invasion of the Soudan (Victoria).....	1896
Native Rising in Matabeleland (Victoria).....	1896

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